

Last Bets g Era Ends Amid Link to Crime

Necmettin Erbakan, who was at the time the prime minister at that time, and the genie minister at that time, the casinos had spread like an open fire across the further corners of Anatolia.

Several prominent religious schools agreed that it would be明智 to oppose religious issues while supporting casino gambling, and they had been invited by the gambling-related family members.

The casinos lost their original place to play games of chance, and became centers of seduction of Parliament. Erdogan, a former member of Parliament who was a leader in many neighborhoods and districts.

"It's impossible to control them, they are free. They can't be controlled, because they are not honest job when there is no such a involvement."

According to the report, Erdogan, Mr. Erdogan, and his dealers, amazons and supporters, their members worked closely with some of the illegal profits. Several newspaper reports showed that successive governments allowed gamblers to operate and that some of the profits funded back to the state and its finance sector operations.

Among the episodes that brought to public attention was the killing of former Justice部长 Tuncel Yilmaz, who was killed in 1997.

Since Mr. Erdogan was a leader of the country, he had to be held responsible, so he had to be held responsible.

Four years ago, Erdogan and his political party, the Justice and Development Party, had been elected to the Parliament.

Mr. Erdogan, who was elected as the leader of the party, has been elected as the leader of the party, and he has been elected as the leader of the party.

Surveys continue to demonstrate high levels of popularity for Mr. Clinton since the scandal broke. A Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll last weekend showed him with a 79 percent approval rating. More typical was the latest Newsweek poll, which found a 66 percent approval, with 49 percent saying the president should not be impeached even if he told Ms. Lewinsky to lie about the alleged affair.

Some lawmakers noted that Mr. Clinton's popularity contrasts markedly with the circumstances that existed when the Judiciary Committee opened an impeachment inquiry against Richard Nixon in 1974, the last time the procedure was used against a president.

At that time, the Watergate scandal had resulted in the indictment of 19 people, among them two cabinet secretaries and many of Mr. Nixon's closest advisers. Mr. Nixon himself had been named an "unindicted co-conspirator" by a special prosecutor for his role in the Watergate cover-up. His approval rating was at 24 percent in August 1974.

"One of the controlling factors is if there is an atmosphere conducive to impeachment," said former Representative M. Caldwell Butler, a Virginia Republican who served on the Judiciary Committee in 1974. "That's just not the circumstance. Until the American people get up like they were in 1974, there should be no discussion of impeachment."

Mr. Starr has made clear that he should come across evidence of impeachable of-

Clinton Evidence Leaves House Cold

No Push in Congress to Impeach

By Guy Gugliotta
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — While the House leadership has quietly begun to consider the logistics of a possible impeachment inquiry against President Bill Clinton, both parties agree the evidence will have to be much stronger than it is now before lawmakers can seriously contemplate removing a popular chief executive from office.

House members question whether Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel, can, as required by law, gather enough "substantial and credible information" about transgressions involving Mr. Clinton to send it to the House as "grounds for impeachment."

Even if the information exists, House members from both parties say they wonder if any misdeeds involved in a possible affair with the former White House intern Monica Lewinsky could rise to the level of "high crimes and misdemeanors" stipulated by the constitution as impeachable offenses.

Finally, say House lawmakers and aides, an inquiry of impeachment will most likely depend as much on the tide of public opinion as it will on the case against Mr. Clinton.

"Go ahead, make my day," said John Conyers Jr., of Michigan, the ranking Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, where any impeachment inquiry would begin.

"A foolhardy attempt to impeach an overwhelmingly popular and successful president on inconsistent and highly suspect circumstantial evidence is one way to ensure a Democratic congressional majority next November," Mr. Conyers said.

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Both the House Republicans and Democrats are holding annual retreats this week, and the Democrats in particular appeared anxious to put off any hasty rush to impeach.

The House minority leader, Richard Gephardt of Missouri, said any move by the Judiciary Committee "would stop everything in its tracks."

Speaking of Mr. Hyde, Representative Den Bentsen, Democrat of Texas, said: "Up to this point, he has been one to withhold judgment and properly so. The Republican party is boisterous and some of their members are eager to exploit these allegations."

But not Mr. Hyde. He has been wanted to "precise evidence" of a "substantial nature," and unlike Mr. Gingrich was not interested in obtaining three years' worth of Ms. Starr's investigation documents.

"One of the best ways to hide things," he said, "is to send too much."

Mr. Hyde and other Republicans said that for any inquiry to have credibility, they would need to consult with Democrats before taking any action.

fenses, he will turn it over to the House. There, the Judiciary Committee chairman, Henry Hyde of Illinois, would consult with the speaker, Newt Gingrich of Georgia, and other Republican leaders before deciding to open an inquiry.

If a majority of the Judiciary Committee voted in favor of articles of impeachment, the full House would act as a grand jury and, by a simple majority vote, could pass the case to the Senate for trial. It takes a two-thirds vote of the Senate to remove the president from office. Mr. Nixon resigned in 1974 before his case left the House.

Mr. Hyde's office said he quietly discussed with Mr. Gingrich last week the financing of an impeachment inquiry, and Mr. Hyde said,

"We would have to augment our staff considerably."

But even as the two make these preliminary preparations, Republicans appear to have raised the threshold for an inquiry. Last week Mr. Gingrich closed a closed meeting of Republicans that he would demand that Mr. Starr turn over all the evidence he had gathered in more than three years of investigating the Clinton administration before the House would contemplate an impeachment inquiry.

People familiar with Mr. Gingrich's thinking acknowledged that his remark was intended to suggest to Mr. Starr that his evidence needed to be overwhelming enough to warrant the abandonment of a probe that has involved everything from Arkansas financial scandals to the White House travel office.

Democrats, meanwhile, suggest that Mr. Starr's evidence is so weak that he wants to "punt to Congress" rather than admit he has no case.

"Starr dumps it on the committee," says Rep. John Conyers Jr., of Michigan, the ranking Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, where any impeachment inquiry would begin.

Such a scenario, Republicans say, will not happen.

"If this boils down to a 'he said, she said' problem, Henry Hyde is not likely to take it," one Republican said. "It's his job to determine what laws were broken and whether they meet the threshold of impeachable offenses."

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He added. The institute did not recommend specific design changes; it only identified current design problems.

As evidence that design changes should be made, the institute Monday sent automakers a statistical study. The study found that the death rate in accidents for people both inside and outside the vehicle was 17 percent higher for sport utility vehicles than for cars and 47 percent higher for pickups than for cars.

The institute had not previously focused on people outside a vehicle, but this time they emphasized that group. The study found that sport utility vehicles killed occupants of other vehicles at nearly double the rate per million vehicles that cars did, while the rate for pickups was more than two and a half times the rate for cars.

Because sport utility vehicles and pickup trucks make up less than a third of the vehicles on the road, and because many people die in single-vehicle accidents, the majority of deaths in vehicle accidents do not involve these light trucks. But the existence of a broad safety problem is clear, Mr. O'Neill said.

What is more, occupants of pickup and sport utility vehicles had higher death rates than occupants of cars of the same weight. The largest sport utility vehicles have slightly lower occupant death



O. J. Simpson, a resident of Brentwood, California, driving past the home of Monica Lewinsky's father. Ms. Lewinsky's visit has brought on a media blitz not seen since the former football star's murder trial.

Counsel for Jones's Judge: Step Down

The Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas — The judge in the Paula Jones sexual harassment lawsuit should consider stepping down from the case if her husband's involvement violated judicial standards, according to a legal scholar.

Judge Susan Weil Wright of U.S. District Court used portions of a memo written by her husband, Robert Wright, in her decision to delay the case until after President Bill Clinton leaves office.

She also allowed her husband to sit in on a private meeting with lawyers after the Supreme Court overturned the ruling.

Legal scholars said Mr. Wright's involvement was odd at best and might have violated judicial canons that pro-

hibit judges from discussing pending cases with family members.

"It gives the impression that this individual is part of the decision-making process," said Carl Bogus, a law professor who teaches professional responsibility at Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island.

"The judge will have to consider whether this creates a sufficient appearance of impropriety that would compel her to consider recusing herself," Mr. Bogus said.

Kathleen Clark, professor of political and legal ethics at Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, said that "a judge consulting someone other than the parties and the judge's law clerk and making a decision is odd," but that

talk of the judge's stepping down was unfounded.

"I wouldn't be talking about recusal over this. It seems a little extreme," she said, adding that she did not think Mr. Wright served his wife well by making those comments.

The Washington Post reported Mr. Wright's involvement in the Jones' case on Monday.

Mr. Wright, a law professor at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, said he had made suggestions about pending cases, including Mrs. Jones' suit against Mr. Clinton, but he denied helping his wife make decisions.

"I don't decide my wife's cases," he said. "I never have. I don't know how my wife will rule."

Lawyers See Legal Hand Behind Lewinsky 'Talking Points'

By Joan Biskupic
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — It takes one to know one. Which may explain why several lawyers, asked to analyze the "talking points" document that the former White House intern Monica Lewinsky supposedly gave to her colleague, Linda Tripp, concluded that the document may have a lawyer's hand behind it.

The three-page document is unlikely to have actually been written by a lawyer, according to several legal experts. Rather, some raised the possibility that Ms. Lewinsky may have spoken with a lawyer and then drafted the document herself based on those con-

The result is a strange mixture of the legal and colloquial that encourages Ms. Tripp to retract public statements she had made and possibly distort the truth. It is illegal for lawyers to encourage witnesses to lie, and it is unlikely, the legal specialists said, that any lawyer would have put such suggestions in writing — if he or she would have made them at all.

Still, the document, a copy of which was obtained by The Washington Post, provides a step-by-step guide that Ms. Tripp has claimed she was being asked to follow when she testified in the Paula Jones sexual misconduct case against the president.

The "talking points" could become a key piece of evidence if the independent counsel,

Kenneth Starr, tries to indict Ms. Lewinsky or anyone else on charges of obstructing justice. Mr. Starr is investigating whether Ms. Lewinsky or anyone on President Bill Clinton's legal team urged Ms. Tripp to lie, or whether Ms. Lewinsky herself has been pressured to disguise the true nature of her relationship with Mr. Clinton.

At one point in the document, Ms. Lewinsky appears to suggest how Ms. Tripp can change earlier accounts she has told a reporter regarding Kathleen Willey, a White House aide whom Ms. Tripp had asserted she saw leaving the Oval Office with her blouse unbuttoned and lipstick smeared after an encounter with Mr. Clinton.

In the "points to make in affidavit," Ms. Tripp is encouraged not to "contradict" Mr. Clinton's version of events and to say that "you now do not believe that what she claimed happened really happened" and that "you now find it completely plausible that she herself smeared her lipstick, unbuttoned her blouse, etc."

Toward the end of the document, it says: "You want to provide an affidavit laying out all of the facts in lieu of a deposition. You want Bennett's people to see your affidavit before it's signed." That apparently is a reference to Mr. Clinton's lawyer, Robert Bennett. Neither Mr. Bennett nor Ms. Lewinsky's lawyers would comment on the "talking points."

That is not exactly lawyerly language, but the description nonetheless mirrors the account some White House aides have offered in explaining why Ms. Lewinsky was transferred to the White House to the Pentagon.

John McCormick, who specializes in white-collar criminal work, said he doubted that a lawyer would be foolish enough actually to put such comments in writing.

The language, he said, "suggests someone is asking a witness to change an account or shape a recollection." He added, "That could expose the client and potentially the lawyer to more legal problems down the road."

Mrs. Clark said the sentiment behind the document seemed traceable in lawyers. She pointed to the detailed and well-developed story line that could help Ms. Tripp explain why she came to suspect Mrs. Willey and consequently change her own version of events.

Some lawyers said they found it difficult to believe that Ms. Lewinsky, a 24-year-old with

out legal experience, could have drafted what appears to be a map for navigating a difficult legal proceeding. The document advises, "Your deposition should include enough information to satisfy their questioning."

Such remarks, some lawyers said, reflect more a tone of legal strategizing than talk between two friends. Besides, one noted, why does Ms. Lewinsky have a personal interest in changing the story relating to Mrs. Willey?

The document is a strange blend of savvy and silly. Halfway through, the point of view changes, as if the first part is Ms. Lewinsky's dictates to Ms. Tripp and the second part is Ms. Tripp talking to herself, on the same issues.

At one point it appears that Ms. Tripp is being urged to say that Ms. Lewinsky "turned out to be this huge liar" who "left the WH because she was stalking the P or something like that."

That is not exactly lawyerly language, but the description nonetheless mirrors the account some White House aides have offered in explaining why Ms. Lewinsky was transferred to the White House to the Pentagon.

White lawyers commonly coach witnesses, there is a line between guiding a witness to present events in the best light to a client and urging someone to misstate the truth, which is unethical and illegal.

"It's very routine for lawyers to go over testimony with witnesses. It would be malpractice not to do it," said Stephen Schubert, a University of Chicago criminal law professor. "And it works from both sides: prosecutors, too, do this all the time."

He added, "But you always want your witness to tell the truth."

Insurers Urge Redesign of Sport Utility Vehicles

By Keith Bradsher
New York Times Service

DETROIT — The auto insurance industry has urged carmakers to redesign sport utility vehicles and pickup trucks after concluding that these so-called light trucks raised the risk of death for other road users, while providing little if any additional protection for their own occupants.

"The very high death rates for occupants of other vehicles colliding with pickups or utility vehicles suggest that making future-model pickups and utility vehicles more crash compatible, especially in crashes with cars, should be a priority," said Brian O'Neill, president of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, which is bankrolled by most of the country's auto insurers and speaks for the industry on safety matters.

This is the first time the institute has called for the redesign of a class of passenger vehicles because of the harm they inflict on other drivers.

He added. The institute did not recommend specific design changes; it only identified current design problems.

As evidence that design changes should be made, the institute Monday sent automakers a statistical study. The study found that the death rate in accidents for people both inside and outside the vehicle was 17 percent higher for sport utility vehicles than for cars and 47 percent higher for pickups than for cars.

The institute had not previously focused on people outside a vehicle, but this time they emphasized that group. The study found that sport utility vehicles killed occupants of other vehicles at nearly double the rate per million vehicles that cars did, while the rate for pickups was more than two and a half times the rate for cars.

Because sport utility vehicles and pickup trucks make up less than a third of the vehicles on the road, and because many people die in single-vehicle accidents, the majority of deaths in vehicle accidents do not involve these light trucks. But the existence of a broad safety problem is clear, Mr. O'Neill said.

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Barry Felrice, the regulatory affairs director of the Washington-based American Automobile Manufacturers Association, said some types of vehicles may inflict more damage on cars. But he said more research was needed to determine what, if any, design changes should be made.

Ford Motor Co. said the safety of cars was steadily improving as newer models carried more safety features and as seat belt use rose and drunken driving declined.

But Ricardo Martinez, head of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, said he hoped the auto industry would look for ways to make light trucks more compatible with cars during crashes, and he warned that the American public would demand new safety regulations if the automakers did nothing. "My hope is that the increased recognition of compatibility problems

ASIA/PACIFIC

China Swiftly Deports to U.S. the Exiled Dissident It Arrested

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BEIJING—An exiled Chinese activist, who traveled covertly to China to meet with other dissidents has been deported to the United States, heading off a potential human-rights outcry from overseas.

At the same time, China released three Chinese dissidents held in connection with the secret visit of the 50-year-old dissident Wang Bingzhang.

Mr. Wang's swift expulsion with no trial—or even any public condemnation of his political activities—appeared to be part of Beijing's new strategy to rid itself of opponents by sending them abroad with a minimum of fuss.

Diplomats said the move reflected a further warming of ties between China and the United States that were long bedeviled by clashes over Beijing's treatment of dissent.

An important figure in China's opposition movement, Mr. Wang ended his exile of nearly two decades last month, sneaking into China under an alias to

help dissidents form an opposition party.

Captured by the police on Friday in the eastern city of Bengbu, Mr. Wang was put on a Los Angeles-bound plane from Shanghai on Monday, according to Bill Palmer, spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Beijing.

He said the Chinese authorities did not inform the embassy that Mr. Wang had been deported until Tuesday, hours after the dissident had arrived in California.

"All of my family members are delighted and happy," Wang Bingzhang, the dissident's brother, said on Hong Kong radio, adding, "Because for the last couple of days, we were very worried." He and his parents live in Montreal.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, Zhu Bangzao, said Mr. Wang was held for questioning and deported because he entered China illegally by using a false name to get a visa.

Mr. Wang left China for Canada in the late 1970s and moved to the United

States a few years later. In 1982, he set up a magazine, China Spring, and an exile group, the Chinese Alliance for Democracy.

Mr. Wang, who was staying in Los Angeles with a friend, was unrepentant on Tuesday. He said a social explosion was just around the corner in China and Chinese political exiles had a duty to prepare for the collapse of communism.

"China is like a boil," he said by telephone. "On the outside the skin is smooth, but on the inside it is full of pus."

"Something big will happen in China in the next few years. If we don't come back now to make preparations for the founding of a new state, the democratic movement will lose another opportunity."

Mr. Wang said he had stolen across the Chinese border from Macau on Jan. 23 under an alias. He had traveled around China to organize opposition to

the Communist Party under the banner of a group due to be formally launched this month.

He said the proposed Justice Party hoped to attract government officials, entrepreneurs and workers—but not dissidents because they were under surveillance.

Referring to his sudden release by the Chinese authorities, he said, "Their swift decision could be a sign that the Communist Party is adopting new ways and becoming more open."

Mr. Wang said that before he was hustled aboard the flight to Los Angeles, the police read a statement accusing him of trying to overthrow the government.

"I wasn't surprised by my release," he said. "They had two choices—either give me a harsh sentence or quickly get rid of this hot potato."

Beijing's low-key handling of Mr. Wang's case contrasted with its public fury when the U.S.-based dissident Harry Wu was caught trying to sneak

into China in 1995 to gather evidence about penal colonies. Mr. Wu was expelled, but only after a court had convicted him of spying and sentenced him to 15 years in jail.

Mr. Zhu, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, in a carefully worded statement focused only on Mr. Wang's use of an alias to enter China and said nothing of his political activities.

Wang Bingzhang used a fake name to fraudulently obtain a visa to illegally cross the border," Mr. Zhu said. "China's police organs sent him away under relevant Chinese immigration laws after investigation."

Meanwhile, three U.S. religious leaders picked by President Bill Clinton began a high-profile visit to China to look into religious freedom.

Diplomats said Beijing was keen to avoid upsetting their visit.

Washington responded with restraint to Mr. Wang's detention, although it expressed concern. (AP, Reuters)

Aftershock Jolts Afghan Relief Effort

The Associated Press

RUSTAK, Afghanistan—A strong aftershock struck northeastern Afghanistan on Tuesday, leveling villages already damaged in the earthquake that struck Feb. 4 and isolating new victims from relief workers struggling to reach the snowbound region.

Snow blanketed the only nearby airstrip, making flights impossible and slowing relief convoys. UN trucks carrying thousands of pounds of blankets, plastic sheeting and high protein biscuits struggled to navigate damaged roads.

Rescuers on donkeys and in jeeps first reached the area Monday with small amounts of desperately needed aid. Aid agencies, meanwhile, raised their death toll estimate to more than 3,000. Afghan officials put the number closer to 5,000.

Afghanistan's ambassador to India, Masood Khalili, said a strong aftershock shook the region Tuesday morning, killing at least 11 more people and injuring eight.

"This one destroyed more villages, including two that were not affected before," said the ambassador, who is loyal to the military alliance that controls northern Afghanistan.

Fog, snow, civil war and airstrips of poor quality have hampered aid efforts since the first reports of the earthquake emerged Friday.

Survivors continued to flee toward flatlands to the south, apparently fearing more aftershocks. Many told stories of whole families lost.

Patients lay in darkness Monday on a health clinic's dirt floor, the clinic's power had gone out.

Physicians from Doctors Without Borders, the first foreign aid agency to reach the area, erected hospital tents to expand the number of beds for injured villagers. They reported a shortage of clean water, prompting fears that disease could cause more deaths.

There were fears that Afghanistan's civil war would begin to disrupt relief efforts. On Saturday, the Taliban Islamic Army, which controls 85 percent of Afghanistan, announced a unilateral three-day cease-fire to ease relief efforts.

China Tie Alleged in Clinton Funding

Senate Committee Links Riadys to a Beijing Intelligence Agency

By Bob Woodward
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON—Mochtar Riady and his son, James, who control the Lippo Group conglomerate based in Indonesia and have been friends and supporters of President Bill Clinton since he was governor of Arkansas, "have had a long-term relationship with a Chinese intelligence agency," according to the Senate committee that investigated campaign finance abuses last year.

The unclassified final draft of the committee's report was drawn from highly classified intelligence information supplied by both the CIA and the FBI that was not revealed during several months of public committee hearings last year,

executive branch sources said Monday. The report contains few specifics on the nature of the relationship between the Riadys and Chinese intelligence. No one, including the committee, has alleged that Mr. Clinton or his senior White House or campaign aides were aware of any improper connection that the Riadys or others may have had with the Chinese government.

Officials said that much of the specific intelligence information on which the report's conclusions are based was withheld from the document to protect sources and methods used to gather it. The report itself says that information on the Riadys was "recently acquired."

It describes their relationship with Chinese intelligence as appearing to be

"based on business interests," with the Riadys obtaining Chinese assistance for international business opportunities "in exchange for large sums of money and other help."

As of two weeks ago, the 13-page report on the Chinese connection—part of a much larger document compiled by the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee after last year's hearings—was the subject of bitter dispute between the committee and the CIA and the FBI, which feared it would compromise intelligence-gathering.

The report describes what it calls "strong circumstantial evidence" that six individuals with strong ties to the Chinese, including the Riadys, may have funneled foreign money into political campaigns during the 1996 U.S. election cycle. Of the six, it singles out Maria Hsia, a California immigration consultant and longtime Democratic fund-raiser, as "an agent of the Chinese government," although it cites no specific actions taken in support of this alleged role.

Ms. Hsia's lawyer, Nancy Loque, angrily denied Monday night that Ms. Hsia was a Chinese agent or participated in any campaign fund-raising illegalities.

When the Senate committee began its hearings on the overall issue of alleged campaign fund-raising abuses last July, its chairman, Senator Fred Thompson, Republican of Tennessee, said that the panel "believes that high-level Chinese government officials crafted a plan to increase influence over the U.S. political process." But by the time the hearings ended on Oct. 31, little evidence of such a plan had been publicly produced.

While the overall Thompson committee report is ostensibly partisan in nature and emphasizes the views of the committee's Republican majority—committee Democrats wrote their own competing draft chapters—the document concerning the Chinese connection appears understated and studiously nonpartisan.

Although it gives few details about Ms. Hsia, the report says, "The committee has learned that Hsia has been an agent of the Chinese government that she acted knowingly in support of it, and that she has attempted to conceal her relationship with the Chinese government. The committee has also learned that Hsia has worked in direct support of



Mochtar Riady and his son James, chairman and deputy chairman of the Lippo Group, were named in a Senate report on Democratic fund-raising.

a PRC diplomatic post in the U.S." a reference to the People's Republic of China.

The report does not attempt to tie any specific Hsia fund-raising activities to the Chinese.

A lengthy portion of the overall committee document, which runs some 1,500 pages, details her connection with the Hsi Lai Buddhist Temple in Hacienda Heights, California. Using temple monastic personnel as straw donors, the larger report alleges, Ms. Hsia "illegally laundered" more than \$130,000 in political contributions to Democrats beginning in 1993, including thousands of dollars from a temple event attended by Vice President Al Gore in the early spring of 1996.

The overall report notes that "any link between Hsia and PRC intelligence would raise new questions about Hsia's involvement in funneling money from the Hsi Lai Temple to a number of both local and national political candidates in the United States from at least as early as 1993 through the presidential election of 1996. Were such alleged intelligence reports to be true, Hsia's long relationship to the Vice President of the United States would raise grave new questions about the extent to which Chinese intelligence operatives have been able to influence U.S. politics during the Clinton administration."

Three other individuals are named in the report, although few details are provided in support of its conclusions about them.

They are Ted Sioeng, a former California businessman; John Huang, who has been a focus of public attention in the campaign finance controversy since the beginning, and Yab Lin Trie, a Little Rock friend of Mr. Clinton who, on Jan. 28, became the first person indicted as part of the Justice Department investigation. Last week, he pleaded not guilty to charges of obstruction of justice and campaign finance violations.

BRIEFLY

Bangladesh Rebels End 25-Year Fight

KHAGRACHHARI, Bangladesh—Tribal Shanti Bahini guerrillas fighting for autonomy in the Chittagong Hill Tracts formally surrendered on Tuesday, ending a 25-year insurgency that has claimed more than 3,500 lives.

Officials said the rebels were disbanded by the Bangladesh Army after arriving at heavily guarded camps on Monday, ahead of their surrender.

They gave up more than 450 large weapons, then marched into the Khagrachhari stadium, the surrender venue. (Reuters)

Political Ads Gone In the Philippines

MANILA—Political ads disappeared from Philippine newspapers and television stations Tuesday, the start of the official campaign for May national elections, despite pleas from lesser-known candidates who say they will be unable to reach voters.

A ban on political advertising during campaigns was introduced in 1987 in an effort to level the playing field between wealthy and poor candidates. But critics say the prohibition benefits mainly candidates who already have wide name recognition, such as incumbents and movie and TV stars who have entered politics.

U.S. and Manila Sign Military Pact

MANILA—The Philippines and the United States signed an agreement Tuesday to allow a resumption of long-postponed joint military exercises in the Philippines.

The pact, which must be ratified by the Philippine Senate and approved by President Bill Clinton, provides certain legal protections for U.S. military personnel in future exercises in the Philippines.

Under the agreement, the United States has jurisdiction over U.S. troops who commit crimes while on duty. Off-duty personnel would be subject to Philippine law. (AP)

Fires in Indonesia

JAKARTA—Park rangers and Indonesian soldiers fought raging forest fires in a national park Tuesday as orangutans and other animals fled the blazes.

The fires, made worse by a long drought, have raised fears that a choking smog that strangled parts of Southeast Asia for months last year could return. (AP)

POOL: Group of Seven Considers \$10 Billion in Trade Insurance to Aid Asian Companies

Continued from Page 1

which normally compete with one another, actually get together and cooperate like this in order to deal with an emergency, namely the situation in Asia."

The move, which has the backing of U.S. Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, is being coordinated with Asian governments and the International Monetary Fund. Mr. Harmon, 62, who took over the Eximbank in July, is a veteran Wall Street deal maker who previously headed Schroder Wertheim & Co., a New York investment bank.

"Many people are crying out for structural reform and a new architecture for world financial markets in order to meet future crises," Mr. Harmon said.

"It is important to foster cooperation among the various G-7 export credit agencies so that we can protect our own export credits and at the same time help

held in Europe in the next two weeks. On Wednesday, officials from Hermes, the export credit arm of the German government, will be in Washington to discuss such short-term insurance for South Korea.

Of the Export-Import Bank's total of \$55 billion in outstanding loans and loan guarantees, about \$18 billion is linked to sales in Asia, and about \$9 billion concerns the most troubled economies. This includes \$3.8 billion of guarantees for exports to Indonesia, \$1.6 billion to Korea, \$800 million to Thailand and \$2.8 billion to the Philippines.

Separately, G-7 officials denied a Japanese press report that finance ministers from the G-7 countries were planning to discuss a foreign-exchange stabilization fund for Indonesia when they meet Feb. 21 in London. But a G-7 official who asked not to be named said: "We're not aware of this as an agenda item."

Under one scenario being discussed,

the Export-Import Bank would approve special insurance of about \$1 billion each for Korea, Thailand, and Indonesia.

The U.S. agency's board last week approved at least \$750 million of such short-term insurance for South Korea.

Some analysts say they think that another anti-Chinese pogrom in Indonesia would prompt Beijing to act again in similar protective fashion, even though its official policy toward overseas Chinese has changed in recent years to one which treats them as citizens of the countries in which they reside rather than of China.

"China might feel compelled to deploy her navy in Indonesian territorial waters in order to collect refugees and pressure Indonesia's leadership into restraining anti-Chinese violence," said David Hale, economist at the Zurich Insurance Group in Chicago. "The possibility of China having to use naval forces to protect the overseas Chinese minority of Indonesia would represent a major threat to the political stability of East Asia."

Such a move by Beijing would heighten suspicions about the role and loyalties of the economically influential and close-knit ethnic Chinese communities living in other countries of Southeast Asia.

Analysts said that it would place Singapore—the only state with a Chinese majority in the region—in a particularly invidious position. More than three quarters of Singapore's population of 3 million are Chinese. Most of the rest are Malays and Indians.

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

ASIAN: Indonesia's Neighbors Fear Refugee Wave

Continued from Page 1

Malaysia and Singapore also remembered the period of armed "confrontation" between Indonesia and the Malaysian Federation in 1963 to 1965, when they almost went to war with Jakarta. That conflict reflected an internal turmoil in Indonesia.

Singapore was then part of the federation and Indonesia's confrontation policy only ended after Mr. Subarto took power from Sukarno, the country's nationalistic founding president. Mr. Subarto, then a general, moved in after what the army said was an abortive coup that blamed on the Indonesian Communist Party, which is now banned. The party had close ties with Beijing at the time.

Hundreds of thousands of people, including many Chinese, died in a subsequent anti-Communist pogrom with ethnic undertones. In an earlier crackdown on the Chinese in Indonesia in the 1950s, hundreds of thousands were forced to return to China.

On both occasions, Beijing sent ships to pick them up in what was seen as a gesture of solidarity with a large overseas Chinese community.

About 4 million Chinese live in Indonesia, a nation of 200 million. Many are shopkeepers, traders and businessmen. Some have become very wealthy, to the point where the Chinese as a group

are reputed to control about 70 percent of corporate wealth, although they make up only 3 percent of the population.

Some analysts say they think that another anti-Chinese pogrom in Indonesia would prompt Beijing to act again in similar protective fashion, even though its official policy toward overseas Chinese has changed in recent years to one which treats them as citizens of the countries in which they reside rather than of China.

Aftershock Jolts Afghan Relief Effort

The Associated Press

RUSTAK, Afghanistan — A strong aftershock struck northern Afghanistan on Tuesday, causing villages already damaged by the earthquake that struck Feb. 1 and isolating new victims from a snowbound region.

Snow blanketed the only nearby air strip, making flights impossible and slowing relief convoys. Trucks carrying thousands of pounds of blankets, plastic sheeting and high protein biscuits struggled to navigate damaged roads.

Rescuers on donkeys and in jeeps reached the area Monday via small amounts of supplies needed and aid agencies now, while, raised their death toll estimate to more than 3,000. An Afghan official put the number closer to 5,000.

Afghanistan's ambassador to India, Massoud Khalil, said a major aftershock shook the region Tuesday morning, killing at least 11 more people and injuring eight.

"This one destroyed more villages, including two that were unaffected before," said the ambassador, who is loyal to the military alliance that controls northern Afghanistan.

For now, civil war and a series of poor rains have hampered relief efforts since the first report of the earthquake emerged Friday.

Survivors continued to flee toward the south, leaving behind a trail of aftershocks. Many of them stories of whole families lost.

Relief efforts, which had been on a standstill since last Friday, are still going on.

President Bill Clinton, White House spokesman Steve Tischman, said he had spoken to the president of Poland, who was traveling to the region to assess damage.

Clinton said that Afghan officials had told him they had received help from the United Nations, the European Union, the Army, and the World Bank. Afghan rescue teams are continuing their efforts.

BRIEFLY

Bangladesh Rebels End 25-Year Fight

KATHMANDU, Nepal — Rebels of the Maoist People's War Party, who have been fighting the government for 25 years, have agreed to end their armed struggle.

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2 Shootings At German Borders Kill 4 Officers

Reuters

GOERLITZ, Germany — A Swiss customs officer and three German ones were killed in two separate shootings Tuesday on the German borders with Poland and Switzerland, the police said.

A man believed to be from Kazakhstan or Ukraine shot and killed two German officers on a crowded bus after grabbing a pistol from the holster of one of the agents during a routine inspection on the Polish-German border.

The incident, on a highway near Goerlitz, was one of the worst of its kind in postwar German history.

About seven hours later a man who the police said was Italian shot and killed a German customs agent and his Swiss counterpart at a remote border crossing in southern Germany, near Lake Constance.

Police sources said the Italian man, who was driving a Swiss-registered car, shot the guards as he drove into Germany. He drove a short way past the border before shooting himself in the head.

The suspect was taken to hospital and was reported to be in a critical condition.

The police said they did not know the motives for either shooting. The two incidents were more than 750 kilometers (450 miles) apart.

"This is a dark day for customs," said Finance Minister Theo Waigel, whose ministry oversees the customs agency. "This was senseless violence against customs officials that we haven't seen in the last 25 years."

The shooting at the Polish-German border crossing near Goerlitz, about 250 kilometers southeast of Berlin, also wounded two passengers on the bus.

The suspected assailant was captured after smashing through a side window of the bus and jumping to the ground. He was taken to hospital, where he was being treated for head and hand injuries.

"The suspect injured himself and was taken to hospital, where he is under arrest," said Stephan Enger, a spokesman for the Goerlitz police. "He can't be interrogated yet. We have not yet been able to determine the motive."

The German-Polish border is considered one of the most dangerous of Germany's nine frontiers. Refugees from around the world see it as a gateway to the prosperous European Union states.

"There is considerable smuggling, of drugs and untaxed cigarettes as well as refugees, across a border that is about 350 kilometers long and stretches along the Oder and Neisse rivers."

"The dangers on the entire border are extremely high," said Heinz Schulze, chairman of the German association of customs officials. "The readiness to resort to violence is high."

Mr. Schulze said he was told that the passengers on the bus crossing from Germany to Poland came mainly from Russia, Ukraine, Poland and Latvia.



A VERY OFFICIAL WELCOME IN BELGIUM — The police taking 33 illegal immigrants into custody Tuesday in Ostend after a driver found the Sri Lankans and Albanians in the back of his French truck. The 30 men, a woman and two children said they were trying to get to Britain by ferry from the North Sea port.

EUROPE

Clinton Presses Senate On NATO Expansion

By Steven Erlanger
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Madeleine Albright has begun the final push for Senate approval of NATO expansion, warning senators not to complicate the effort by trying to delay a possible second round of expansion.

On Wednesday, President Bill Clinton will submit documents on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's planned expansion to the Senate for approval, trying to secure one of his major foreign-policy goals.

While the Senate is expected to vote in March to approve adding three members to NATO — Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic — some of its members want to delay a second round of expansion that is planned to incorporate countries such as Romania, which France favors admitting to the alliance, and Slovenia, which Italy supports.

"This administration opposes any effort in the Senate to mandate a pause in the process of NATO enlargement," Mrs. Albright said here Monday before a conference on the future of the alliance. "This would be totally unnecessary, since the Senate would in any case need to give its advice and consent to any new round of enlargement."

Mr. Clinton's administration has defended a limited first-round expansion

of NATO by arguing that the alliance will keep "an open door" to admitting more new members later.

But some senators and others fear that further expansion would antagonize Russia or damage prospects for arms-control agreements with Moscow. Others want to tie NATO expansion to an enlargement of the European Union.

Senator John Warner, Republican of Virginia, has been most prominent in urging a five-year moratorium on a second round of expansion. But on Monday, in a telephone interview from Muscat, Oman, where he is traveling with Defense Secretary William Cohen, he said he had decided to work instead for a three-year moratorium.

Mr. Warner said he would start the clock on the moratorium from the date the last of the 16 current NATO countries approved the new members, not from their expected entry date in mid-1999.

"That seems a fair period of time to make an objective evaluation of how the first round goes," he said. He said he would introduce his amendment in a floor speech in the Senate on Friday.

But administration officials do not want their hands tied and fear that a moratorium "will draw new lines in Europe," a senior official said Monday. They are concerned that discussion of a "pause" could lead to a coalition of senators who oppose NATO expansion.

Shevardnadze, a Survivor, Asks, 'What Do Enemies Want?'

By Steve LeVine
New York Times Service

sign diplomats and journalists.

The attack came as the silver-haired leader has led Georgia to a measure of genuine independence from Russia six years after the Soviet breakup.

A senior aide to Mr. Shevardnadze held unidentified forces living in Russia responsible, asserting that the shift of regional balance was behind the attack.

"Independence in the Caucasus — Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia — has become a fact," said Peter Mamradze, a top political adviser to Mr. Shevardnadze. "They can't reconcile themselves to that fact."

Diplomats and regional officials describe Russia's leadership as splintered, with a hawkish group unassociated with President Boris Yeltsin dominating policy in regions such as the Caucasus. This group is said to have backed a handful of separatist wars in the region that have broken out since the

Soviet collapse, in addition to Russia's disastrous war in Chechnya.

Mr. Shevardnadze, who returned to lead his native republic of 5 million people in 1992, seemed Tuesday to be uninjured, unlike the first attempt on his life, in which he suffered cuts and bruises when a car exploded near his motorcycle in 1995. The latest attack, however, killed the presidential bodyguard credited with saving Mr. Shevardnadze's life in 1995, Kaka Shevardenidze, 37. Two other presidential bodyguards were injured.

State security investigators and Army troops had strung rope around a park from which Mr. Shevardnadze's entourage was attacked about 11:15 P.M. Monday as he traveled home.

The assault appeared professional. A group penetrated presidential security, took up positions undetected among trees, then by large escape after throwing grenades at all of Mr. Shevard-

nadze's vehicles as they moved at high speed.

Mr. Shevardnadze survived only because his chauffeur managed to drive his disabled armored Mercedes limousine another 150 yards before it stalled, taking the president out of the assassins' field of fire.

Georgian officials estimated the assassination group's size at more than two dozen. One, a Chechen, was killed and his body left behind by the group.

"I can't tell you who took part," Mr. Shevardnadze said, "but by the scale and level it was conducted, I can say it was a kind of international terrorism."

Mr. Shevardnadze said he did not "have in mind the leadership of Russia."

"But there are certain other circles who have their own interests, and use the kind of methods as last night," he said.

Yeltsin Wraps Up Visit to Italy With Papal Audience

Agence France-Presse

ROME — President Boris Yeltsin of Russia wrapped up a two-day visit to Italy on Tuesday by signing lucrative business deals with Italian hosts and meeting at the Vatican for the first time with Pope John Paul II.

The closed-door meeting with the Pope, held in the library of his private residence at the Vatican, lasted more than an hour.

The audience was significant because of the Russian president's role as mediator in the crisis between the Roman Catholic and Russian Orthodox churches, notably in organizing a meeting between the Pope and Patriarch Alexy II.

Before the meeting, Mr. Yeltsin indicated his discussions with the Pope would include "the next millennium, religion and social affairs."

Mr. Yeltsin's spokesman, Sergei Yazytskikh, said after the meeting that the two men did not discuss a visit by the Pope to Russia.

Observers said such a visit was unlikely until ties between the two churches are improved.

Earlier, Mr. Yeltsin met with the Italian prime minister, Romano Prodi, and signed a "plan of action" to bolster bilateral trade. He also made a joint

appeal with Mr. Prodi for a diplomatic solution to the Iraqi crisis.

The 67-year-old Russian leader, appearing in good health and spirits, stressed, however, that pressure should be put on Baghdad to bend to United Nations weapons inspection demands.

Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Prodi said at a joint news conference that they would send a "very strong" message to the Iraqi president, Saddam Hussein.

"What is essential is that we avoid an inferno, that we do everything to peacefully resolve this conflict by way of diplomacy," Mr. Yeltsin said.

"We are at a delicate moment for world peace," Mr. Prodi said, adding that Italy and Russia "must make their joint position known."

"I believe that our plea will not go unanswered," he said.

On Monday, Mr. Yeltsin met with President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro, who pledged Italy's support in seeking a diplomatic solution in Iraq.

Mr. Yeltsin signed an agreement Tuesday that emphasized a "special understanding" between Rome and Moscow. The "action plan" was a culmination of efforts to put into play the political, economic, scientific and cultural aspects of the peace treaty signed by both countries in 1994.

Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Prodi also signed cooperation accords for sectors that include technology, education, culture, energy and space exploration.

Italy is Russia's second most important trading partner in Europe after Germany.

Mr. Yeltsin and Mr. Prodi were to meet with Italian and Russian businessmen on Wednesday, then have a private lunch with their wives and Mr. Yeltsin's daughter Tatiana.

The Russian president was to return to Moscow early Wednesday afternoon.

Jospin Wins Vote on Cut In Workweek

Agence France-Presse

PARIS — A bill that would institute a 35-hour workweek in the year 2000 in hope of creating jobs sailed through a first reading Tuesday in the French National Assembly.

But it was expected to have a harder time in the Senate, where a conservative majority is likely to make major changes before returning it to the lower house.

The bill, the work of Labor Minister Martine Auhry, keeps one of the most important election promises of Prime Minister Lionel Jospin, whose Socialist-dominated coalition defeated the center-right in general elections in June.

The legislation would cut four hours from the current 39-hour workweek. Opponents contend that it will raise labor costs without creating jobs. The unemployment rate in France is 12.2 percent.

The bill will not be considered by the Senate before March 3, so it could not win final parliamentary approval until after the French regional elections on May 15 and 22.

The bill came out of the discussion phase in the National Assembly without any major modifications after a week of debate, despite strong opposition from employers.

The government agreed that businesses could keep the 39-hour week while allowing workers additional time off over a year.

The bill would make the shorter work hours compulsory by the year 2000 for companies with more than 20 workers, and by 2002 for the rest.

Schumann, Free French 'Voice,' Dies

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Maurice Schumann, 86, the London-based radio voice of the French Resistance in World War II and later a politician, foreign minister and ardent defender of French culture, died Tuesday in Invalides military hospital.

Mr. Schumann was a deputy and then senator for nearly five decades and held numerous ministerial posts. But long before he played a leading role in French politics, he had entered history as a teenager, became a fervent Roman Catholic shortly before the war after what relatives called a mystical experience.

His wartime role ensured him easy access to postwar national politics. He helped found the Popular Republican Movement, France's main Christian democratic political party, and was elected to the National Assembly.

He was deputy foreign minister from 1951 to 1954 and headed Parliament's foreign affairs committee for most of the period from 1957 to 1968.

Mr. Schumann was the main speaker on a program from London called "Les Francais Parlent aux Francais" (The French Speak to the French). His denunciations of Nazi collaborators more than once led to them being killed by resistance fighters, who received esoteric coded orders such as "The carrots are cooked" or "Franklin is arriving" over the same program.

Mr. Schumann had cooperated with the raids on five of its offices. A Scientology spokesman said the raids had been directed at individual members rather than the organization itself.

State prosecutors said that Scientology officials were released from prison Tuesday, a day after a ban on his nationalist party was lifted, officials said.

The opposition leader, Vahan Oganesian, of the Dashnak Party, was sentenced in 1995 to four years in jail on charges of having incited a coup. Garegin Avakyan, a Supreme Court spokesman, said he was freed Tuesday afternoon.

The raids were linked to investigations into the death last year of a businessman who reportedly received medical advice from Scientology members,

INTERNATIONAL

Clinton's Iraq Policy Tangles With Other Goals in Middle East and TradeBy Thomas W. Lippman
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration's difficulty in winning international support for a military strike against Iraq has been compounded by links between the Iraq issue and several other critical but seemingly unrelated foreign policy decisions that are also on the table, according to senior officials.

Issues as varied as the future of the Middle East peace process and President Bill Clinton's desire for expanded trade negotiating authority are parts of the equation as the administration calculates how to proceed against Iraq, the officials say.

As a result, Mr. Clinton's foreign-policy team, after a relatively tranquil 1997, is going through one of the most testing periods of the president's second term: senior officials and independent analysts said. While not as trying as the foreign policy disarray of 1993, when a new administration was buffeted by crises in Somalia and Bosnia, the impasses in the Middle East and Persian Gulf especially are forcing senior officials into stressful choices.

Police in Paris Interrogate De Niro About Call-Girl Ring

Copied by Our Staff from Dispatches

PARIS — French investigators questioned the actor Robert de Niro on Tuesday in connection with a call-girl ring, police sources said.

The police picked up Mr. de Niro at the Bristol Hotel, where he was staying while shooting a movie in Paris, the sources said.

Mr. De Niro, 54, was interviewed by police as a witness on a warrant from Frederic N'Guyen, the investigating magistrate who interrogated the actor after a first round of questioning by police.

Details on why the magistrate wanted to speak with Mr. De Niro were not immediately available.

The police detained the Oscar-winning actor at midday and questioned him for several hours.

Investigators said Mr. De Niro had raised no objections to being brought in for questioning.

But Mr. De Niro's lawyer, Georges Klejman, said the investigating magistrate had violated his client's freedom of movement and right to privacy under French law.

The lawyer said it was "inadmissible" the way his client was held all day in a case where he was only a witness. He also criticized the fact that oewns had leaked out that Mr. De Niro was being questioned.

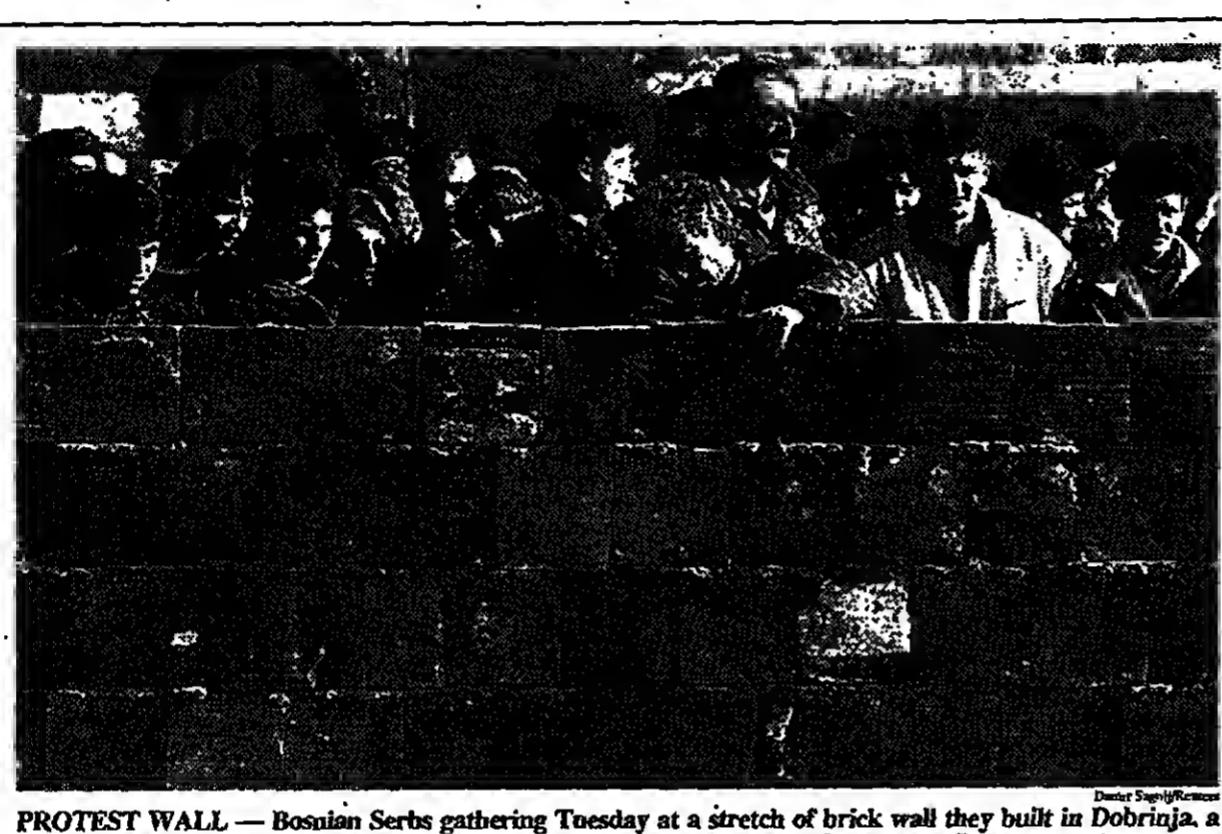
Five people have been placed under formal investigation in the case — one step short of being charged — since the prostitution case broke last February after a four-month investigation that included telephone surveillance.

Anniko Brumark, a former model, and Jean-Pierre Bourgeois, a photographer, were accused of receiving fees from young prostitutes.

Both have been in detention since January.

Prostitution is legal in France, but pimping is not. The ring allegedly charged from \$3,000 francs (\$490) to 50,000 francs (\$8,200).

French newspapers have reported that the ring's clients and prostitutes came from Bosnia, the United States, Britain, Indonesia and Morocco. (AP, AFP)



PROTEST WALL — Bosnian Serbs gathering Tuesday at a stretch of brick wall they built in Dobrinja, a Sarajevo suburb, along the boundary line separating them from Muslim-Croat areas. It was erected to protest the arrest of a Serb accused of assassinating the Bosnian deputy prime minister, Hakija Turajlic, in 1993.

Thousands Flee Siege of Sierra Leone Capital

Reuters

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone — Thousands of civilians fled the eastern suburbs of this capital city Tuesday to evade heavy overnight battles between the local army and Nigerian-led West African peacekeepers, witnesses said.

"Thousands of people, many with their belongings on their heads, are trekking to the city center to seek shelter," a witness in the capital said.

The West African peacekeeping force announced an effort Monday to evict Sierra Leone's military junta, which toppled the elected government last May and triggered a confrontation with regional peacekeepers, witnesses said.

Witnesses said the peacekeeping

force began heavy bombardments of eastern districts of the capital overnight, but ground attacks were meeting stiff resistance.

"Both sides are fighting for every inch of soil with blood," one fleeing resident said.

Reporters who ventured to the outskirts of town saw bodies on the side of the highway leading to the interior of the country via the capital's satellite towns of Waterloo, Kissy and Wellington.

"We saw whole houses demolished by overnight shelling, some of them still burning," one local reporter said.

A coup against Sierra Leone's elected president, Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, last May 25 provoked a confrontation between the junta and members of the 16-nation Economic Community of West African States, known as Ecowas, and their peacekeeping force, the Ecowas Monitoring Group, known as Econog.

Econog is enforcing an air, land and sea blockade of Sierra Leone and an arms and economic embargo imposed by the United Nations to force a return to constitutional rule.

boarding when the alarm was raised. This was in part a safety precaution, in case the rat had gnawed through cables or wiring while on board.

The animal showed some style during its uninvited stay, a Swissair spokesman, Erwin Schaefer, said.

"It spent most of its time behind the business-class section, in the gallery area," he said.

It was not known how the rodent got on board, he said. The plane's wiring and cables were checked before the airline put it back into service.

Swissair had to find a replacement aircraft for the Sunday morning flight to Vienna, which had been ready for

Swissair Jet Is Trapped for 2 Days by a Rat

The Associated Press



FREEDOM — Giuseppe Soffiantini celebrating Tuesday with his wife at their home in northern Italy after the businessman was freed by his Sardinian kidnappers Monday. His abductors cut off bits of his ears and released him when \$5.5 million in ransom was paid.

linsky. Mr. Starr and his investigators have been seeking other witnesses and physical evidence to try to corroborate Ms. Lewinsky's taped discussions. In the weeks during which prosecutors have been seeking Ms. Lewinsky's cooperation, they have obtained the testimony of several witnesses who might back up aspects of the story Ms. Lewinsky told on the Tripp tapes.

Mr. Clinton's personal secretary, Betty Currie, has told investigators that she sometimes left the president and Ms. Lewinsky alone while she was in the next room, an apparent contradiction of Mr. Clinton's recollections in his sworn deposition in Mrs. Jones's case, according to sources familiar with their accounts.

Another White House aide, Ashley Raines, a close friend of Ms. Lewinsky's, told investigators that Ms. Lewinsky confided in her details of her relationship with Mr. Clinton. Newsweek said this week, citing lawyers close to the Clinton defense team. The lawyers

said Ms. Raines told investigators that she had heard Mr. Clinton's voice on Ms. Lewinsky's answering machine, just as Ms. Tripp reportedly did.

A White House official has acknowledged that Ms. Raines is talking to Mr. Starr's office; she testified before the grand jury last week. But lawyers at the White House refused to say what her lawyer has told them about her testimony.

Mr. Starr has also sought depositions, videotapes and documents from Mrs. Jones's lawyers regarding Kathleen Willey, another White House aide, who reportedly alleged that Mr. Clinton groped and kissed her in 1993, and any other "Jane Doe" women who may have had sexual encounters with the president. The Jones lawyers had until Tuesday to turn over the material.

But a federal judge in Richmond, Virginia, must first partly lift a court seal on those items and a source familiar with the case said that an attorney for Mrs. Willey is fighting the release.

To avoid relying entirely on Ms. Lewinsky could be a damaging witness against Mr. Clinton. In a proffer to prosecutors describing how she would testify if granted the full immunity she had sought, Ms. Lewinsky acknowledged a sexual relationship with the president.

Saudi Prince Donates Airliner to Palestinians

Agence France-Presse

GAZA — Prince Walid ibn Talal of Saudi Arabia presented a Boeing 727 passenger jet to Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, on Tuesday during the first visit by a member of the Saudi royal family to the Palestinian autonomous areas.

Prince Walid, chairman of the Kingdom Holding Company and one of the world's wealthiest businessmen, donated the jet to Palestinian Airways, which operates two small Fokker jets.

A statement issued by the Kingdom Holding Company said that the prince was also studying possible sites in east Jerusalem or Bethlehem to build hotels for his Movenpick chain.

These issues are messy in themselves, and the linkages, real or perceived, make them even harder," one senior official said.

He and others said that each of several key decisions that must be made soon carried the potential for serious negative consequences somewhere else.

For example, the administration must decide soon whether a major investment by French and Russian oil companies in an offshore natural gas development in Iran should be subject to economic sanctions under U.S. law. The legal answer is almost certainly "yes," analysts said, but a decision to impose sanctions now would further strain relations with Russia and France, permanent members of the UN Security Council that oppose the use of force in Iraq.

Mr. Clinton has a substantial political investment in developing an amicable relationship with Russia, and has encouraged the development of its economy, both goals that could be set back by sanctions against RAO Gazprom, the energy conglomerate that is Russia's largest company.

In addition, European diplomats have told the administration that the Iraq situation is reaching the point that some administration officials say the United States is running out of ideas about how to re-energize the so-called Oslo peace process. But pressure on either side for movement could influence support for U.S. policy on Iraq.

In the Arab world, a U.S. failure to push Israel into further troop withdrawals from the West Bank would be perceived as capitulation to what Arab states portray as the intransigence of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Arabs already unhappy about the prospect of a massive aerial bombardment of another Arab country, Iraq, would view an easing of U.S. pressure on Israel as a pretext for refusing to support Washington on Iraq, several analysts said.

But Israel has strong support in Congress, where many members blame the Palestinians for the impasse in the peace process. Some members are already questioning the wisdom of putting additional pressure on Israel to give up territory when Israel faces the possibility that Iraq will fire Scud missiles into its territory, as it did in 1991.

Another major factor in the Iraq equation is relations with Turkey, a senior official said.

Turkey, a NATO ally, opposes the use of force against Iraq and has made no secret of its desire to see Baghdad's iron-fisted control restored in the Kurdish regions of Northern Iraq to stop incursions of Kurdish rebels into Turkey. Turkey is strongly opposed to any action that contributes to a breakup of Iraq and that encourages Kurdish aspirations for an independent country.

Washington, meanwhile, wants Turkish cooperation in enlarging NATO and in seeking a solution to the long-standing division of Cyprus. "You can't allow yourself to be driven to paralysis," a senior official said of these interlocking considerations. "But you have to go through that region of the world thinking of alliances and coalitions, because if you don't you become the target of coalitions that form against you. The purveyor of orthodoxy inspires heresy."

"There is no question there are a series of issues out there — on Iraq, on how best to pursue the Middle East peace process, on Iraq and the question of sanctity — that are sensitive issues coming to a head very soon," said James Rubin, the State Department spokesman.

IRAQ: Clinton Intensifies Push for Support

Continued from Page 1

United States had authorized the United States to use the Lajes air base in the Azores in any attack on Iraq.

Tanker aircraft operating from Lajes refueled hundreds of planes during the Gulf War in 1991, in which the United States led a UN operation to drive Iraqi forces out of Kuwait.

The United States has a base at Lajes, but under the terms of its agreement with Portugal it needs special permission for nonroutine operations.

In Canada, the defense minister, Art Eggleton, said the frigate Toronto had been directed to turn around in the Mediterranean and head for the Gulf to arrive there within 16 days.

Two Hercules aircraft, capable of refueling fighter jets in mid-air as well as providing transport, will be sent from Winnipeg within seven days, once a land base in the region is found for them, he added.

"This will be a clear signal to Saddam Hussein that the United States and the U.K. are not alone," Mr. Eggleton said.

Spain's largest-circulation daily newspaper reported, meanwhile, that the government will permit the U.S. military to use a Spanish air base in an attack on Iraq, but the prime minister's chief spokesman said that Madrid had not received any such request from the United States.

A U.S. petition to use the air base would be carefully studied, said the spokesman, Miguel Angel Rodriguez, who added that for Spain, "Our ally is the United States, not Mr. Hussein."

The U.S. deployment at Moron air base would involve about 30 KC-130 tanker planes for inflight refueling of U.S. warplanes, reported the daily, El Pais, citing unidentified government sources.

While Mr. Clinton and his aides renewed warnings that they were prepared to resort to force to punish Mr. Saddam, they also underscored that diplomacy might still produce a breakthrough.

"We want very much to be able to solve this situation diplomatically," Mrs. Albright told senators.

"The best way for this whole thing to end would be for Saddam Hussein to go back and allow" the UN inspectors to return to work, she said.

She added that no decision had been made to use force, and she steered away from statements made two weeks ago that diplomatic options were "all but exhausted." (AFP, Reuters, AP, NYT)

Turks Battle Kurds in Iraq

Turkish troops supported by armored vehicles and aircraft fought with Kurdish

guerrillas in the mountains of northern Iraq on Tuesday, Turkish military officials and witnesses said, according to Reuters.

The reports appeared to contradict statements by Turkey's leaders that the country's troops were not active in northern Iraq, which has been outside Bagdad's control since the Gulf War ended.

BRIEFLY**Mission to Algeria Sees No Obstacles**

ALGIERS — Visiting European lawmakers met at length Tuesday with the foreign minister and the head of a government-run human-rights group and said that "nothing is being left in the shadows."

The nine-member mission from the European Parliament, which arrived in Algeria on Sunday for a five-day visit, has nevertheless been denied permission to visit sites of massacres that have occurred during a six-year-old insurgency by Islamic militants.

Unofficial estimates put the death toll in that conflict at 75,000. The government says about 26,500 people have been killed. The authorities blame the rebels for the killings, but questions have been raised as to whether the army may have had a role in some of them.

The parliamentary delegation is seeking facts and trying to establish a dialogue with Algeria on the violence.

"Nothing has been left in the shadows," said Andre Soulier of France, the head of the delegation. "Our discussions and our wish to inform ourselves are proceeding without obstacles."

The delegation met Tuesday morning for two hours with Foreign Minister Ahmed Attaf and with the head of the state-run National Office for Human Rights.

Talks so far have covered security, human rights and terrorism, including "its causes here and elsewhere," Mr. Soulier said. (AP)

Yemeni Tribesmen Seize Dutch Tourist

SAN'A, Yemen — Yemeni tribesmen kidnapped a Dutch tourist as he strolled near his hotel on the outskirts of the capital, a tribal source said Tuesday.

Three tribesmen abducted the man late Monday and took him to Marib, a town 170 kilometers (105 miles) northeast of San'a.

The kidnappers, from the Toalai tribe, are demanding the release of three tribe members who were arrested this week while trying to steal a government car.

The source said another tribe had begun negotiations with the kidnappers on behalf of the government. Dutch Embassy officials would not comment, but employees at the Ramada Hadda, where the man was staying, gave his name as J. Westgeest and said he was 60 years old.

2 Killed in Mexico In Rebel Ambush

MEXICO CITY — Two persons have been killed and several others wounded in an attack by suspected Marxist guerrillas on the treasurer of a town in the southern state of Oaxaca, officials and newspapers said Monday.

Oaxaca prosecutors said one of the assailants and a local resident were killed when 15 armed men, dressed in black and wearing handkerchiefs over their faces, attacked the convoy of the treasurer, Fabio Almaraz, on Saturday.

The ambush took place near Mr. Almaraz's town, San Agustin Loxicha, about 140 kilometers southwest of the state capital, Oaxaca.

The local newspaper, El Imparcial, said the slain attacker, identified only as "Commander Z," belonged to a Marxist guerrilla group called the Popular Revolutionary Army.

The group conducted a series of attacks on government officials in mid-1996. (Reuters)

nd Trade

NATO ally, opposes the use of its iron-fisted venture to the regions of Northern Iraq to stop Kurdish rebels into Turkey. That's opposed to my action that continues in Iraq and that continues as far as independent countries for all independent countries.

An emerging NATO will be able to the long-standing divisions in Iraq. It won't allow you to be driven by a senior official out of their considerations. But you have to be that region of the world think about what's best for the target of conflict that's going to be pursued at military.

Is the question there are a

of these in Iraq, on how the

of sanctification — that are coming

to a halt very quickly, and

the State Department's role can

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in Iraq. The U.S. officials and the U.S. and the

The report says, in 1998,

country, the war in Iraq, northern Iraq, which has been

Particular, the U.S. has

ended.

BRIEFLY

Mission to Algeria Sees No Obstacles

All the way from the

lawyers, the

rights, the

Necessary

... a country in crisis typically has limited access to borrowing and alternative of printing more, could be potentially disastrous. The IMF has also been urged to issue a report on bank reform. But it would be a mistake to allow clearly broken窗户 to remain open. This would perpetuate the region's financial crisis.

Of course, we take individual circumstances into account in assessing how quickly all of this can be resolved.

The best approach is to offer sharp, but temporary, tax incentives to stem the outflow of long-term capital while making a decisive start on financial sector restructuring and supervision, up to international standards, and increasing domestic competition and transparency.

None of this will be easy, and certainly the pace of economic activity in these economies will be slow. But the slowdown is mainly the result of the recent financial flows.

Without these return programs, the international support behind the slowdown would be much more dramatic; the costs to the general economy much higher and the future international economy much graver.

This comment was signed by International Herald Tribune staff members, Mr. Gouraud and Mr. Lefebvre, and the Council of Economic Advisors.

Join the Web

... a new web page at www.iht.com ... the site is now available to our readers in France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Portugal, and the United Kingdom. The site features news from around the world, including political news, business reports, sports, and entertainment. It also includes a forum for users to discuss various topics. The site is designed to be user-friendly and accessible to everyone.

Health maintenance organizations, on doubt alarmed by audiences' identification with the waitress-mother and anticipating legislative action, already have assembled a defense team.

The dramatic impact of "Ti-

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tacular watery special effects but

from the powerful images of the rich and privileged passengers

taking the limited spaces in half-

filled lifeboats, while their fellow

human beings in steerage are sen-

teced to drown.

The Washington Post.

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STAGE/ENTERTAINMENT

How to Separate The Old and the New *Let's Hear It for Musical Ghettos*

By Bernard Holland
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — "It's really like Brahms," the argument goes. "You're just not used to it. Put it next to a 19th-century classic, and see how one bleeds into the other. Music has a process of evolution and a history. You haven't read the latest chapters carefully, and you should."

It's that nasty old new music again, the kind presenters don't want to put on and audiences don't want to listen to. You will love it if you make the connection, listeners are told. Know a little more, and learn that Webern drives just like Haydn, even if the grills and fins are different.

The idea makes sense, and it helps explain the gulf that exists between liking Tchaikovsky and liking Elliott Carter; in other words, the sense of separation common to our present-day music-appreciation quandaries. Indeed, it has made sense for a couple of generations, even though it doesn't work.

Grazed, we are "used to" a body of 20th-century music: the Russian and neoclassical Stravinsky, great hunks of the Bartók repertory, Berg's operas, Schoenberg's "Pierrot Lumière." Other important music of the time corroborates our old evolutionary theory. Shostakovich, Janácek and Strauss have original personalities, but they speak in updated dialects. They are continuations or appendices to Beethoven and Wagner.

The 19th century gave us empires; the 20th took them away. Music is more stubborn. Tradition crumbles; it speaks in final colonial gasps, but the past does not want to go away. It colors the way we listen to everything written since.

Maybe this is why the public, with Chopin ringing in its ears, strenuously rejects so much music. You would think that it would be used to Berg's Three Pieces for Orchestra after almost 75 years, but how often do they appear in subscription programs?

It's a wonderful work if you can bear it in the right place. And this may be the problem, that our idea of context is all wrong. Maybe in the case of music, the cause-and-effect story of evolution doesn't work. Maybe those vaunted connections to Brahms exist mainly in the minds of musicologists.

Let's rewrite history and, for the sake of oversimplification, assume that music stopped dead in its tracks in the first part of this century and then started over again from scratch. It's hard to argue, at any rate, that a lot of pieces written since the 1920s and '30s come from any planet Schumann ever lived on.

Let's assume that some of the "difficult" music of our time has not failed the past — or suffered from the failure of present audiences — but has little to do with the past at all, that it continues little of traditions but instead posits a ground zero, or a number of ground zeros.

ACCEPT that as a general, but in no way foolproof, rule, and we can rearrange our concert programs, as a lot of wise presenters and musicians are already starting to do. Put Messiaen's "Turangalila" next to Saint-Saëns's "Danse Macabre," or Coulöu Nancarrow's player-piano music next to Schumann's "Papillons," and I predict a thousand sets of jangled nerves and enough alienation to sink the "Titanic." Put Messiaen together with Nancarrow, and Saint-Saëns with Schumann, and you have two reasonably civilized worlds.

I started to think this way two sum-

mers ago, after the summer week of contemporary music at the Tanglewood festival in Lenox, Massachusetts. Morning, afternoon and evening, radical languages were set next to one another. No overt references to the past here, not a six-four chord or a Neapolitan sixth in sight, no Mozart to keep the sense of history going.

These distinctly modern languages became the natural discourse for a sensible musical life. Wandering afterward to the Boston Symphony's concert in the Shed made Beethoven sound almost weird.

There are signs that young people



By Sheridan Morley
International Herald Tribune

The First Plays: Life Before Fame *Where Mamet's Coming From*

len's superb re-creation of the decks and gallery.

"Lakeboat" is not only interesting and important for what it shows us of the way Mamet was headed, it is also a crackingly dramatic and observant piece that would have been well worth staging even if Mamet had never written another script.

At the Lyric Hammersmith Studio, in "Lakeboat," written by David Mamet when, back in the late 1960s, he was a college student and spending one summer vacation working on the sun



LONDON THEATER

boat that carried steel and even

mail across the Great Lakes. Amazingly secure for a first script, this is a wry and wonderfully observant look at eight men fusing together on an ancient craft. Mamet finds in his crew a whole series of richly detailed character portraits, and already, some six years before "American Buffalo," it is clear that he was fast developing his own brand of rapid-fire, cross-purpose dialogue, the kind that comes at you as out of a machine gun.

So let's hear it for musical ghettos. Keeping people separated because they are different produces bad results, but in music I'm not so sure that is so. The early-music movement does this already, though mainly because its instruments refer to a specific time and repertory, and don't always work in music from other periods.

Let the Romantics continue to work their inexhaustible magic. Let new music live a healthy life of its own. Anyone who says that Donald Martino shares an inch of common ground with Rimsky-Korsakov just isn't listening.

There's no real plot here, just eight men in conversations and monologues trying to make some hesitant kind of sense out of their lost opportunities, friendships and in some cases lives. Through their spare, sparse chatter we get a real sense of the two officers, five seamen and the uneasy but fascinated college boy who is clearly Mamet himself. These men are every bit as wasted as the salesmen of "Glengary Glen Ross," only here there is no real competition, just a bleak sense of loss.

In Aaron Mullen's wondrous production, Brian Greene and Jim Dunk lead a strong cast across Melanie Al-

Broadway Musicals the Way They Used to Sound

By Peter Marks
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The charge I used to get from new musicals, I now get mainly from old ones.

But please, don't write me off as a "Fiddler" or "Dolly" or "La Mancha"-loving fuddy-duddy. By old, I don't mean the mostly charmless, overproduced musical revivals that settle on Broadway each year. No, the shows that remind me of the Broadway I grew up with are not

Broadway productions at all. They materialize, three a season on three weekends from February to May, and bubble for just a little longer than uncorked magnum of champagne.

What I refer to, of course, is the Encores! Great American Musicals in Concert series at City Center, which may be the closest thing to show-tune chic that the New York theater world has ever produced. In the remarkably brief span of four years — and a total of just 51 performances — Encores! has established itself as the city's interactive

archive with its robust musical-theater past, an indispensable showcase for the words and music of the writers, from the Gershwins to Rodgers and Hart to Kander and Ebb, who created, nurtured and refined the American musical through the years of its artistic ascension, beginning in the 1920s.

Already widely imitated — a concert musical program has been started in Los Angeles, and officials of the Kennedy Center have contacted City Center for advice on a Washington spinoff — the series is enormously popular.

BOOKS

GENUINE REALITY:
A Life of William James
By Linda Simon. 467 pages.
\$35. Harcourt Brace.

Reviewed by
Mark Edmundson

WILLIAM JAMES is one of the great American success stories. Things began auspiciously enough. His young life was a disaster. But he went on to win major distinction as a psychologist, a philosopher, and as a chronicler of the varieties of religious experience. He also became an exemplary American university professor, a figure whose combination of humanity and intellectual prowess continues to exert vast appeal to many teachers who have followed him up to the lectern and into the seminar room. All in all, James was early 20th-century America's most revered intellectual.

The son of a very rich, very peculiar Christian philosopher, Henry James Sr., William was a sharp-minded, competitive boy who lorded it over his brother Henry, the future novelist; his sister Alice, the brilliant diarist to

be, and his other, conspicuously less gifted siblings. One of the distinctions of Linda Simon's well-written, well-paced biography is how much insight she gives us into James's family background. Reading her, one comes to understand just how much William had to contend with in his effort to break free and go relatively sane.

The Jameses, it's been remarked, were from no nation or state; rather they were natives of a peculiar, mobile tribe, the James family. Henry Sr. was impossible. He seemed to want William to be all of a number of contradictory things at once. The eldest child was to be both pious and free in his thinking, responsive to the letter of his father's authority, yet with a steely independence of will; to follow in his father's professional footsteps, yet to find his own way — as Emerson, a family friend, advised all and sundry — and to do it.

No surprise then that as William arrived at college a sequence of major crises set in. William's crises were not entirely unlike other men's youthful trials, except

for their intensity and for the fact that they rolled on intermittently for about 15 years.

He wanted to be a painter. No, he'd like to try medicine. Perhaps natural science would do. He had money and connections as well as talent, so he could readily convert his impulses into serious apprenticeships. There was a trip to Brazil with the famed zoologist Louis Agassiz, a sojourn in Europe to paint, a study of this and that at Harvard. Blown by the sudden gusts of his father's judgment and his own merciful, indecisive temper, William was in a long-term state of disarray.

FOR the Jameses illness was a family preoccupation. William once moved back home to find his brother Henry suffering from back pain, constipation and low spirits; his sister Alice was recovering from a breakdown. William himself had serious depression to nurse. It got so bad that he once saw his own image in the person of a poor mental patient, prone to fits, with sallow skin and a wasted, wanting look. It was shortly afterward, William reports, that he gathered up what was left of his resolve and proclaimed that his first gesture of free will would be to commit himself to the doctrine that the will was, of necessity, free. "My first act of free will shall be to believe in free will."

A few things besides the newfound belief in free will collaborated to save William James. The first was his marriage to Alice Howe Gibbons. She was strong in her religious faith and in her conviction that her husband

would, in time, make something of himself. She was also to support William in the then conventional wife mode, offering endless solicitude both for her husband and their growing array of children. William, for his part, loved his family, but he was always running away from it, to Europe, say, to recuperate from the ravages of the term and to hide out from the children's peace-disrupting illnesses.

Alice, as Simon repeatedly observes, bore the brunt. Harvard also helped to save William James. He picked up a lectureship there and showed that he could actually behave maturely when he stepped into a role that took maturity for granted. He was a marvelous teacher — amiable, original and rigorous — and took particular interest in his most waywardly gifted students, whom he brought home to tea and to be fussed over a little by Alice.

With his personal life squared away, William went on to success, though conspicuously late success. He published his first major book, "Principles of Psychology," just before his 50th birthday. Having defined the field of psychology, or at least the American version of it, he then pulled up stakes and went off to do major work as a theorist of religion and as a philosopher. Adapting ideas from Charles Sanders Peirce, he founded the only major indigenous U.S. philosophical school, pragmatism.

Mark Edmundson, professor of English at the University of Virginia and the author of "Nightmare on Main Street," wrote this for The Washington Post.

BEST SELLERS

The New York Times The list is based on reports from more than 2,000 booksellers throughout the United States. Weeks on list are not necessarily consecutive.	
FICTION	
Last Week	Wks on list
1 PARADISE, by Tom Morrison	1 3
2 GOLD MOUNTAIN, by Charles Frazier	2 31
3 FEAR NOTHING, by Dean Koontz	3 2
4 A CERTAIN JUSTICE, by P.O. James	5 9
5 THE WINNER, by David Guterson	4 8
6 CAT & MOUSE, by James Patterson	6 12
7 THE INVESTIGATORS, by David Liss	11 2
8 MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA, by Arthur Golden	7 12
9 THE GOD OF SMALL THINGS, by Arundhati Roy	9 26
10 WHEN CLOUDS PART, by Neale Donald Walsch	11 11
11 THE RAPTURE OF NANCING, by Chang-rae Lee	14 3
12 THE CELESTINE VISION, by James Redfield	13 10
13 THE DARK SIDE OF CAMELOT, by Seymour M. Hersh	11 11
14 DIRTY JOKES AND OTHER STORIES, by Caryn Richman	12 18
15 PILLARS OF FIRE, by Taylor Branch	1 1
16 SHARP EDGES, by Jayne Anne Phillips	12 2
17 CUBA LIBRE, by Elmore Leonard	1 1
18 THE LETTER, by Richard Russo	13 15
19 THE MASTERHARPER OF PERN, by Anne McCaffrey	15 2
20 TALKING TO HEAVEN, by James Van Praagh	3 5
21 THE MILLIONAIRE NEXT DOOR, by Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko	10 55
NONFICTION	
1 SIMPLE ABUNDANCE, by Sarah Ban Breathnach	2 96
2 DON'T WORRY, MAKE MONEY, by Richard Carlson	2 7
3 MEN ARE FROM MARS, WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS, by John Gray	223
4 JOY OF COOKING, by Irma S. Rombauer, Marion Becker and Ethan Becker	3 11

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Herald Tribune
INTERNATIONAL
PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Encore! spawned the hit revival of "Chicago" during a four-performance run in May 1996, a production directed by the series' former artistic director, Walter Bobbie, that not only was shipped almost intact to Broadway, but also provided a complete makeover for the reputation of a musical that in 1925 had been mistakenly consigned by critics and audiences to also-ran status.

As "Chicago" demonstrated, the modestly staged City Center shows — each Encore! run, boosted last season to five performances, costs about \$380,000 per show — can have an outsize impact on the theater business. Each production is not simply a reconsideration; it's an audition. Any number of musical talents have received high-voltage jolts to their careers as a result of their appearances in Encore! productions.

Two young actresses, Melissa Errico and Rebecca Luker, probably owe their starring roles in the forthcoming Broadway musicals, "High Society" and "The Sound of Music," to Encore! triumphs. Errico in the 1996 staging of "One Touch of Venus," Luker in last season's "Boys From Syracuse."

When Christine Baranski drew raves for a cameo last year in "Promises, Promises," there was an immediate find-thal-woman-a-musical buzz on producers' cell phones. That show, especially, was widely viewed as a pre-Broadway tryout, both for the 1968 Bert Bacharach-Hal David-Neil Simon musical (based on the film "The Apartment") and its star, Martin Short.

But the enthusiasm waned after many who saw it decided that, among other things, the substantial cringe factor in the show's pre-feminist sensibility made it too dated for commercial success.

None of the people who created the non-profit series, of course, envisioned it as a dry run for the profit-making theater. But a crossover was inevitable. Encore!, which stresses the light touch of dialogue and song over the heavy fist of pulsing beat and visual effects, came along at just the right moment in the evolution of the musical.

The musical spectacle, in the hands of such wizards as Lloyd Webber and Cameron Mackintosh, was beginning to seem a bit tired; the closing, deep in the

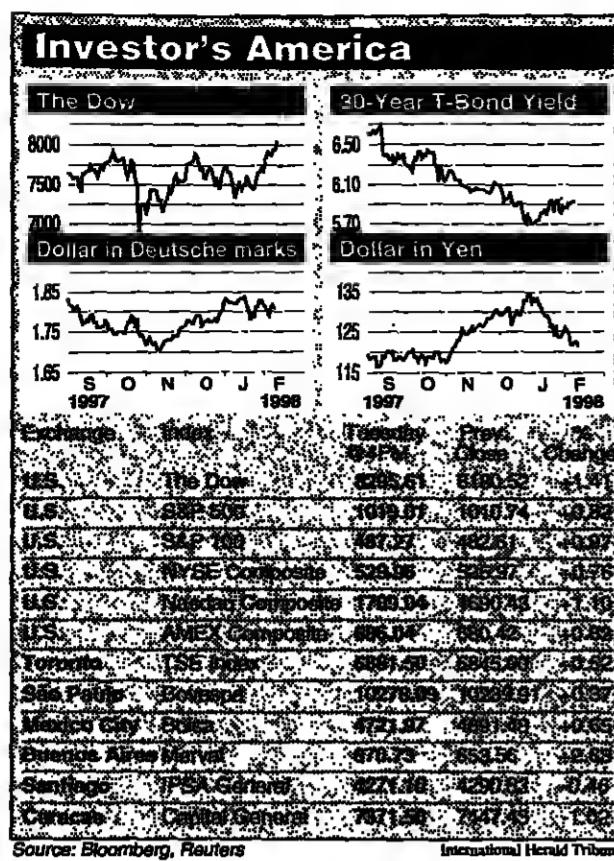
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CROSSWORD

ACROSS	1 Arctic dwellers	2 Valentine present	4 Composer	6 Spanish dance
5 Vegetables	22 Persian parent	24 Motorists' org.	26 Piedmont wine center	28 Passionate
10 Irving protagonist	25 Piedmont wine center	27 Not to mention	29 Valentine present	31 Valentine's eye
14 Belief of 1.1 billion	28 Passionate	30 Grassy plain	32 Valentine's eye	33 Valentine sort
15 Thompson of "Sense and Sensibility"	31 Not to mention	33 Grassay plain	34 Valentine present	35 Pharmacy solutions
16 Essays of —, 1823	34 1953 Pulitzer playwright	35 1953 Pulitzer playwright	36 Valentine present	37 Valentine's eye
17 It's tucked under the chin	37 Valentine's eye	38 Valentine's eye	39 Valentine's eye	40 Valentine's eye
18 Farmer's prayer, perhaps	38 Valentine's eye	41 Valentine's eye	42 Valentine's eye	43 Valentine's eye
19 1994 Jodie Foster film	42 Valentine's eye	43 Valentine's eye	4	

THE AMERICAS



Source: Bloomberg, Reuters

International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• Columbia/HCA Healthcare Corp. engaged in a "billing fraud scheme" involving Columbia hospitals throughout the United States, investigators said in newly unsealed court records. Unsealed portions of an affidavit filed by an FBI special agent in Tampa, Florida, also detail aspects of the government's investigation of Columbia/HCA's hospitals in El Paso, Texas, and in Florida.

• Time Warner Inc.'s net profit in the fourth quarter rose to \$216 million from \$59 million a year earlier as strength in its publishing and cable operations and a gain from the sale of Hastro Inc. stock offset weakness in its music business. Time Warner also said it was selling its Six Flags theme-park unit to Premier Parks Inc. and a partner in a deal valued at \$965 million.

• Pioneer Natural Resources Co. plans to sell U.S. oil and natural gas fields it values at \$350 million to \$550 million as part of a plan to cut costs and focus on more profitable acreage.

• McDonald's Corp. is buying a minority stake in World Foods Inc., which owns the Chipotle Mexican Grill chain of 14 burrito restaurants in the Denver area. McDonald's said it would remain focused on expanding its hamburger restaurant business.

Bloomberg, Reuters

Japan's Plan Benefits Yen

Bloomberg News

NEW YORK — The dollar fell against the yen Tuesday amid speculation that new measures by the governing Liberal Democratic Party would lift the Japanese economy out of its seven-year slump.

Tokyo will unveil a plan next week to bolster land and stock prices, according to a draft of the proposal. Hopes for such a stimulus have lifted the yen 8 percent in the past month.

"It's not surprising that the yen is strong," said John DeBeer of

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Loomis Sayles & Co. "The reforms are significant." In 4 P.M. trading, the dollar was down to 123.20 yen from 124.15 yen Monday.

"There are expectations that the Japanese government will take the necessary measures to shore up the economy," said Keisuke Aso of Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Ltd. "That's helping the yen."

A draft of the Liberal Democrats' economic package, to be unveiled the day before finance ministers of the Group of Seven leading industrialized nations meet in London on

Feb. 21, includes provisions to buy land held as collateral for bad loans. The party said it will use a mix of tax cuts and public spending to post 5 trillion yen (\$40.3 billion) in the economy. Traders also snapped up yen amid signs that market turmoil in Asia may be coming to an end.

The rupiah surged in Asian trading on speculation that Jakarta would peg it to a more stable currency, but the Indonesian currency

gave up most of its gains later. The dollar fell to 1,807 Deutsche marks from 1,8165 DM, weighed down by speculation that calls to postpone Europe's planned economic and monetary union could extend the mark's role as Europe's benchmark currency. The dollar also fell to 6,0605 French francs from 6,0908 francs and to 1,4607 Swiss francs from 1,4653 francs. The pound slipped to \$1.6258 from \$1.6295.

REUTERS

CUDDLY COMPUTERS — A New York girl, 4, chatting with interactive dolls equipped by Microsoft Corp. The dolls, based on characters from a TV series, "Arthur," go on sale soon.

Citibank Freezes Thai Bank Deal

The Associated Press

BANGKOK — Citibank said Tuesday that it had suspended its review of First Bangkok City Bank of Thailand, which was seized by the government last week.

Citibank, a unit of New York-based Citicorp, said it could not comment on whether it still wanted to buy a stake in the Thai bank. It said in November that it planned to buy at least 50.1 percent of First Bangkok.

The central bank took control of First Bangkok on Friday after it missed a deadline for a recapitalization.

AMEX

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

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The Associated Press

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EUROPE

EU to Probe Fees Of Mobile PhonesBy James Hansen
Special to the Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — The European Commission said Tuesday that it had begun investigating complaints about the high level of some mobile phone charges as part of its efforts to make cellular services more widely available.

The commission said in a statement that its competition chief, Karel Van Mier, wanted to find out why, for example, it sometimes cost significantly more to call a mobile phone from a fixed network than from another mobile. He has asked fixed and mobile telecom operators in all EU countries to provide information by the end of February, the commission said.

An EU source said Belgium and Britain were among the countries where price gaps had been noticed.

EU law requires operators to base their interconnection fees on actual costs.

Fiat, Old Russian Player, Shifts Into High**It Will Hold 40% of \$850 Million Venture**

TURIN — Fiat SpA will become one of the biggest foreign investors in Russia when it signs an \$850 million joint-venture agreement Wednesday with the Russian automaker OAO GAZ and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

The venture, ZAO Nizhegorod Motors, will start assembling low-end Fiat models this year in Nizhny Novgorod, about 400 kilometers (250 miles) east of Moscow. Fiat said.

The agreement is the latest in a series of deals that have seen Western automobile manufacturers preparing to begin production in Russia. Ford Motor Co. confirmed last month it would invest about \$150 million in a Russian car factory, and Renault has signed a \$350 million agreement to build its Megane sedan in the country.

Of the funding, about \$240 million will come from the European development bank. The remaining

\$610 million in cash and in assets will come from the two industrial partners in equal parts, the automakers.

Fiat and OAO GAZ will each hold 40 percent of the venture; the European bank will have the remaining 20 percent.

Two of the three Fiat models to be produced in Nizhny Novgorod — the Sienna and the Palio Weekend — are based on Fiat's Project 178 world-car platform, manufactured in Poland and Brazil. The third, the larger Marea sedan, is manufactured in Italy.

By 2001, the Russian plant is expected to produce a total of 150,000 units a year of the three models. Russian law requires that at least 50 percent of components be from local sources within five years of start-up.

Fiat entered Russia in 1913 when it began selling its automobiles through a Moscow dealer. A privileged link with the former Soviet government flourished during the 1960s, when Fiat built the huge Togliattiagrad man-

ufacturing complex for AvtoZAZ, maker of the Lada, a small sedan based on the old Fiat 124.

The Fiat-OAO GAZ deal is the most important of a series of agreements carefully held for completion during a visit to Italy by Russian President Boris Yeltsin, which will end Wednesday.

The Italian government smoothed the way for joint ventures by saying its export insurance agency would guarantee Italian projects in Russia. SACE, the state body that underwrites export credits, said that it had "extended the coverage of its insurance with regard to Russia."

[The agency suspended guarantees for projects in Russia six years ago after the demise of the Soviet Union, and investment slowed to a trickle. Italy was Moscow's second-largest creditor during the final years of Communist rule in the late 1980s.]

[SACE said it would now be able to underwrite export credits for proj-

ects in addition to those covered by a \$40 billion lire (\$247 million) credit line Rome created with Moscow in July 1996.]

Other agreements signed during Mr. Yeltsin's visit to Italy included a \$200 million sale of houses to the city of St. Petersburg by Breda Costruzioni Ferroviarie SpA as well as an agreement by Merloni Elettrodomestici SpA to build a washing-machine factory near Moscow.

Technimont, the engineering subsidiary of Montedison SpA, in a consortium with Japanese and Turkish construction companies and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, will build five petrochemical plants for a group of Gazprom subsidiaries. Gazprom is the Russian national hydrocarbons monopoly. According to a Montedison spokesman, the total value of the five projects is about \$700 million.

Ete Nazionale Idrocarburi SpA, the Italian state energy group, is also expected to announce an agreement with Gazprom on the extraction and distribution of natural gas.

Lords Rebuff Blair, Not to Mention MurdochBy Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — As the Labour Party has moved to the center of Britain's political spectrum, few changes have carried as much symbolism as Prime Minister Tony Blair's courtship of Rupert Murdoch.

The Australian-born press baron was Labour's scourge during the Thatcher and Major years preceding Labour's victory last year, and many party officials believe his newspaper's virulent attacks cost the party the 1992 election.

And so it was a tremendous coup when Mr. Blair's openly pro-business policies won him the endorsement of Mr. Murdoch's mass-circulation tabloid, The Sun, in the 1997 campaign. And Mr. Blair has kept the friendship alive, turning to the columns of The Sun two months ago to argue his case for welfare reform.

But now, Mr. Blair finds his unlikely alliance under attack. On Monday night, the House of Lords defied the government's position and approved an amendment to a competition bill that would outlaw "predatory pricing" in the news-

paper industry. The measure, instigated by the struggling independent broadsheet paper, is clearly aimed at Mr. Murdoch's News International PLC, which has used price-cutting strategies during the last five years to more than double the circulation of its flagship, The Times, to around 800,000 daily from a low of 350,000 in 1993. The Monday paper, for

said Lord Borrie, a Labour member of Lords. As well as being former director-general of the office of fair trading, and thus the government's antitrust chief, Lord Borrie is a director of The Independent's parent company.

Along with other supporters of the amendment, he contended that Mr. Murdoch subsidizes The Times

example, has been sold for 10 pence (16 cents) a copy as compared to 45 pence for most competitors. The price has just been raised to 20 pence.

The amendment was sponsored by Liberal Democrat and Conservative members of the Lords but 23 Labour peers, including a former deputy party leader, Roy Hattersley, opposed the government's stance and supported the measure.

"The continued availability of a range of newspapers and a diversity of news and views is surely at risk not just from mergers but from the persistent tactic of price-cutting,"

with profits from his interests in the satellite television business, BSkyB. The amendment is aimed at preventing such cross subsidy.

A spokesman for the prime minister's office said the government would seek to delete the amendment when the bill goes to the House of Commons in the next month or so. Lord Simon, who argued the government's case in the Lords, said there was no need for a special provision that applies to one industry or even one company and insisted that the bill would provide adequate protection to consumers without amendment.

The government says it will seek to delete an amendment in the House of Commons.

The potential for defections from the party line is high in the Commons because many prominent Labour politicians, including Robin Cook, the foreign secretary, opposed Mr. Murdoch's marketing tactics while they were in opposition.

The Times deplored the vote as an infringement of the paper's freedom "to make changes to itself and to lower its prices to test those changes in the world's most competitive and successful newspaper market."

While the newspaper's gains have been the most dramatic, overall broadsheet circulation has risen more than 10 percent in the last four years, it noted.

The paper also dismissed allegations of cross subsidy, saying that losses at The Times have narrowed sharply and are more than offset by profits at The Sunday Times. News Corp., last week reported a 10 percent increase in operating profits at its U.K. newspapers in the six months ended Dec. 31.

William Rees-Mogg, a Times columnist and Conservative lord, blamed The Independent's problems on a succession of editorial changes and divisions between its owners.

Europe's Markets Form an Alliance

Reuters

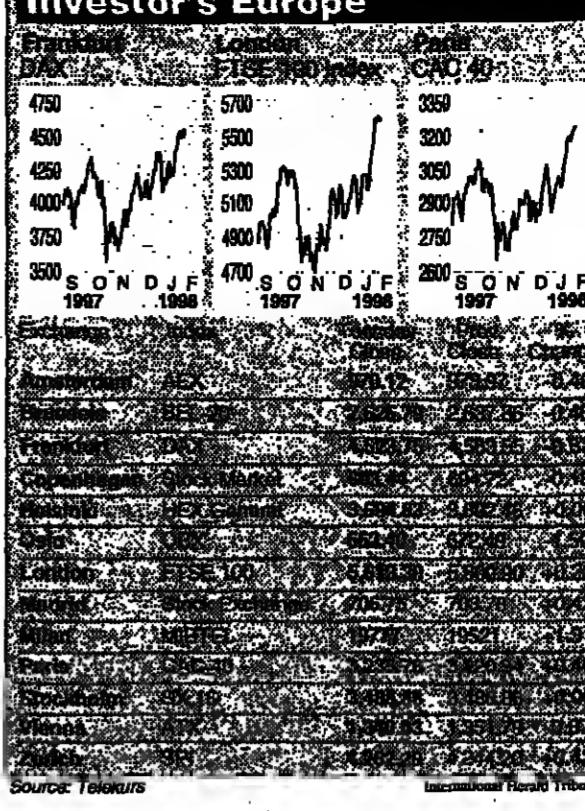
PARIS — Europe's continental markets, trying to outmaneuver London and become a major center for securities trading in the euro zone, signed a link called Euro Alliance.

The deal was presented hours before securities markets in Germany, France and Switzerland were to list the European stocks they will include in their benchmark indexes in the era of European monetary union that is due to begin next year.

The partners of Euro Alliance have confirmed their desire to create the market of reference for interest-rate derivatives and indices with a view to "winning the battle of the euro," the bourses said.

Jean-François Theodore, head of the SBF Paris bourse, contended that the plan had put London, Europe's largest stock market, on the defensive.

"The London Stock Exchange's problem today is not the conquest but the conservation of its domestic market," he said.

Investor's Europe

Source: Reuters

International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• British Petroleum Co.'s profit before special items fell 8 percent in 1997, to £636 million (\$1.04 billion) on a current-cost basis, which values oil inventories at current market prices, as new finds did not offset a drop in oil prices. Historic-cost profit, which values inventories at their original purchase price, rose 23 percent to £588 million, including special items.

• Renters Holdings PLC's pretax profit fell 4 percent, to £262 million, in 1997 because of the strong pound and a one-time accounting charge. Sales fell 1 percent to £2.81 billion.

• Railtrack Group PLC has asked National Express PLC, Virgin Group Ltd. and others to take over the Eurostar train service as part of its potential bid to build a high-speed rail link between London and the Channel Tunnel.

• Unilever PLC said 13 percent of its operations were performing below expectations, down from 20 percent 18 months ago, and said it might sell some of them.

• The United States formally proposed to the World Trade Organization that Internet commerce be kept free of duties, diplomats reported.

• Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. of Israel warned that further quarter earnings would not meet expectations because of reduced domestic sales and the cost of marketing a new drug.

• Hannover Re's net profit rose 11 percent, to 120 million Deutsche marks (\$66.3 million), as premium income rose 20 percent, to 7.7 billion DM.

• Bayerische Vereinsbank AG and the German bank's workers council agreed to increase the company's proportion of part-time employees to 15 percent from 11 percent.

• Leica Camera AG posted a loss of 5.2 million DM for the quarter ended in December, against profit of 3 million DM a year earlier, as Asian sales of its photo equipment fell 47 percent. Asia accounts for 27 percent of its sales.

• French consumer sentiment declined in January to its lowest level since May.

AFP, Bloomberg, AFX, Reuters, AP

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

	High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.			
Amsterdam	NAK Index	73.32	73.32	73.32	SA Breweries	134.20	131.40	133.40	132.80	Vendome Ltd	4.20	4.15	4.25	4.27	Electrolux B	595	574	581	578
	Previous: 73.32				Deutsche Bank	43.50	42.50	43.50	43.20	Whitbread	4.75	4.70	4.80	4.77	Siemens	320	316	318	318
	73.32	73.32	73.32	73.32	Dresdner Bank	33.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	Williams Fidgit	3.51	3.45	3.51	3.55	Siemens	320	317	320	320
	73.32	73.32	73.32	73.32	WestLB	32.00	31.50	31.50	31.50	Williams Fidgit	3.51	3.45	3.51	3.55	Siemens	320	317	320	320
	73.32	73.32	73.32	73.32	Franklin Templeton	32.00	31.50	31.50	31.50	Williams Fidgit	3.51	3.45	3.51	3.55	Siemens	320	317	320	320
	73.32	73.32	73.32	73.32	First Trust	32.00	31.50	31.50	31.50	Williams Fidgit	3.51	3.45	3.51	3.55	Siemens	320	317	320	320
	73.32	73.32	73.32	73.32	First Trust	32.00	31.50	31.50	31.50	Williams Fidgit	3.51	3.45	3.51	3.55	Siemens	320	317	320	320
	73.32	73.32	73.32	73.32	First Trust	32.00	31.50	31.50	31.50	Williams Fidgit	3.51	3.45	3.51	3.55	Siemens	320	317	320	320
	73.32	73.32	73.32	73.32	First Trust	32.00	31.50	31.50	31.50	Williams Fidgit	3.51	3.45	3.51	3.55	Siemens	320	317	320	320
	73.32	73.32	73.32	73.32	First Trust	32.00	31.50	31.50	31.50	Williams Fidgit	3.51	3.45	3.51	3.55	Siemens	320	317	320	320
	73.32	73.32	73.32	73.32	First Trust	32.00	31.50	31.50	31.50	Williams Fidgit	3.51	3.45	3.51	3.55	Siemens	320	317	320	320
	73.32	73.32	73.32	73.32	First Trust	32.00	31.50	31.50	31.50	Williams Fidgit	3.51	3.45	3.51	3.55	Siemens	320	317	320	320
	73.32	73.32	73.32	73.32	First Trust	32.00	31.50	31.50	31.50	Williams Fidgit	3.51	3.45	3.51	3.55	Siemens	320			

NYSE

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close

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Continued on Page 16

Seoul Firm Owes Morgan \$180 Million

Bloomberg News

SEOUL — A South Korean company that lost money investing in derivative securities based on Asian currencies owes J.P. Morgan & Co. at least \$180 million, court officials and bankers said Tuesday.

The company, SK Securities, is disputing payment, which comes due Thursday, a Seoul District Court judge said, citing documents filed by SK Securities. The derivatives contract is worth about \$180 million, according to Iwan Jung, a manager in the international finance department at Boram Bank, which guaranteed part of the transaction.

J.P. Morgan and other international banks are helping South Korea roll over \$24 billion in bank debt by exchanging it for government-backed loans. The agreement is scheduled to be signed in April.

A J.P. Morgan official in Seoul said his company was working with South Korean companies to ensure payment on such transactions. He declined to say whether the New York-based bank had written off any losses from the transaction.

Such derivatives were popular a year ago because they allowed investors to borrow yen at low interest rates and invest in higher-yielding currencies such as the Thai baht or Indonesian rupiah. Since then, the baht and rupiah have lost more than 40 percent of their value against the U.S. dollar, leaving investors with hefty losses.

South Korean investors were particularly eager to take advantage of an opportunity to borrow abroad because interest rates were so high at home.

As Asian currencies sink in value against the U.S. dollar, those loans became increasingly difficult or impossible to repay.

Cash-Rich Indonesian Firm Ducks Creditors

Bloomberg News

JAKARTA — PT Matahari Putra Prima, the largest department-store company in Indonesia, was supposed to be a shining exception amid the tangled wreckage of Indonesia's corporate debt crisis.

Though the retail arm of Lippo Group is burdened with \$200 million in debt, Matahari raised 902 billion rupiah (\$94.5 million) through a sale of shares to stockholders in October, giving it enough cash to meet \$60 million in short-term payments due by the end of March. What is more, the company bought 12.6 percent of a hotel company last month, indicating it had cash to spare.

So why is Matahari telling lenders it doesn't want to repay that \$60 million on time?

"It's the prudent thing to do," said Robert Hacker, a Matahari vice president. "The environment is so

uncertain, it strongly suggests the company should do whatever it can to preserve its working capital."

Matahari's effort to reschedule its debt realizes creditors' worst fear: that even solvent companies would balk at servicing debts after Radius Prawiro, President Suharto's special adviser on debt, proposed a temporary freeze last month on debt payments for some companies.

Amina Timizi, an analyst at GK Goh, cut her rating on Matahari stock to "sell to extremely low levels" after it bought the hotel stake and said it was seeking to reschedule debt. Before then, she said, "It was a 'buy' because they told us they were so well hedged and because they had this fabulous rights issue that was going to help them ride out the crisis."

Mr. Hacker said all of Matahari's creditors had agreed to a rollover of its debt. "We're encouraged by the reaction," he said. "We haven't had to make a payout so far. I guess they're not concerned about our credit risk."

But Standard & Poor's Corp. is. The American credit monitor slashed its rating on Matahari to "Cc," or 10 notches below investment grade, on concern that the Indonesian financial crisis had forced Matahari to spend some of its cash reserves.

Matahari's shares finished 25 rupiah lower Tuesday at 400.

"Acute systemic problems in Indonesia's financial sector have made it increasingly difficult for Matahari to obtain essential working capital funding," S&P said. "Consequently, Matahari has come under financial stress as a result of having to fund its business from internal cash resources rather than creditors or bank lines."

S&P warned that it was considering a further cut of Matahari's rating, particularly if it "seeks to reschedule payment of its financial obligations under the voluntary framework announced by the Indonesian government on Jan. 27."

Matahari told analysts last year that it had hedged its debts at a rate of 2,700 rupiah to the dollar. The dollar was trading at 9,500 rupiah Tuesday in New York, down from 9,550 rupiah Monday.

While dozens of Indonesian companies have shown themselves unable or unwilling to pay debts since the rupiah began plummeting last August, no publicly traded company has gone bankrupt or otherwise been forced to seek court protection from creditors. Jakarta said Friday that it was working quickly to set up a bankruptcy law as part of its strategy to resolve the private debt problem.

Economist Sees Yuan Falling in '99

Reuters

HONG KONG — China will probably devalue its currency in 1999, but it will hold off as long as possible to avoid igniting fresh chaos in Asian financial markets or hurting the economy of Hong Kong, a China specialist said Tuesday.

"It probably won't happen until sometime in 1999, partly because of fears of a round of competitive devaluations," said Ken Davies, re-

gional chief economist of the Economist Intelligence Unit.

"When it does take place, it will be late and fairly small," Mr. Davies said. He predicted a devaluation "in the order of 5 or 10 percent."

There has been intense speculation that China would be forced to devalue its currency to make its exports competitive with those of Asian countries whose currencies have plunged in value in the past several

months. China had a trade surplus of more than \$40 billion in 1997.

Mr. Davies said it would become necessary for China to devalue but that to do it now, with the Thai baht and Indonesian rupiah still fluctuating in value, would be to stimulate "just another bout of competitive devaluations." When China does devalue, "it will have to do so in consultation with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority," he said.

SEOUL: Labor Group Threatens Strike Over Economic Pact

Continued from Page 11

closely watching the reaction of South Korea's student groups, long regarded as a gauge of public sentiment, to the proposed legislation. So far, the students have said nothing, even though they are likely to feel the effects of the upheaval that will sweep South Korea's workplace as the country seeks to regain its economic footing.

Park Young Ki, a professor at

Sogang University and a specialist on labor issues, estimates that of the 470,000 graduates hitting the labor market this year, fewer than 100,000 will get jobs. He said even students that had received tentative offers from chaebol were not getting formal job offers.

Nonetheless, Mr. Park does not support the confederation's threat to strike. "Everybody has conceded something to reach this agreement," he said. "If the government

starts renegotiating it now, no one will honor it."

But Mr. Yoon said that if public support for the confederation seemed tepid now, it would pick up steam once layoffs began.

"At the moment, many people are concerned about our crisis, and in the name of not prolonging the crisis, they remain silent," he said. "But we are certain it's not going to be finished in a couple of months, but in a year or two or three."

Defendant Admits Payoff at Toshiba

The Associated Press

TOKYO — A former executive at Toshiba Corp. pleaded guilty Tuesday to charges that he had paid off accused corporate extortionists.

Takeshi Watanabe, 55, former head of the general affairs department at Toshiba, admitted making illegal payments of \$17,000 to two racketeers.

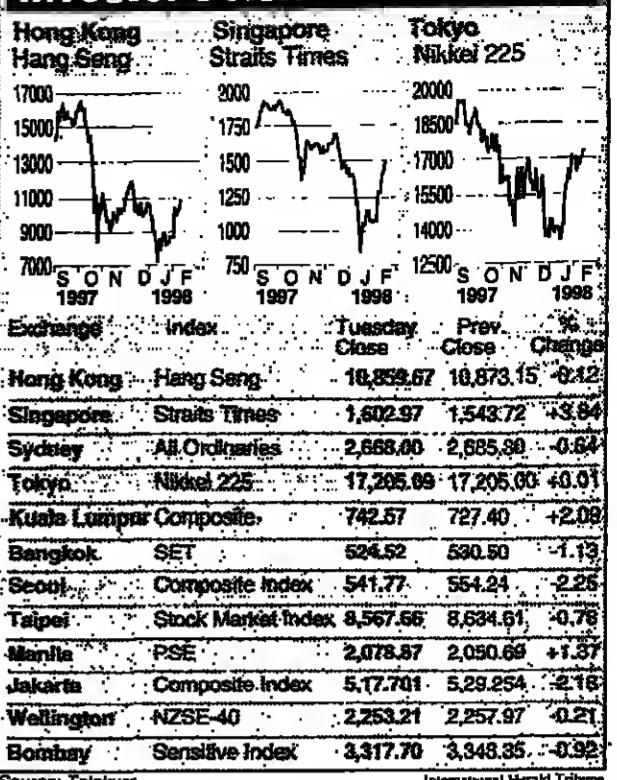
Two accused racketeers — Terubo Tei, 53, and Kaoru Hamada, 40 — had already been arrested on charges of receiving illegal payments over a three-year period from 1995.

Mr. Watanabe's payments were made to ensure that the electronics company's shareholder meetings ran smoothly, prosecutors told the court.

Making deals with *sokaiya* is illegal in Japan. The guilty plea came on the opening day of Mr. Watanabe's trial in Tokyo.

Sokaiya buy a token amount of a company's stock and threaten to disrupt shareholders' meetings by bringing up embarrassing information about failed investments or the personal lives of executives unless they are paid off.

Investor's Asia



Source: Telakurs International Herald Tribune

Very briefly:

• Softbank Corp., a major Japanese distributor of computer software, plans to dissolve a computer-game joint venture with Microsoft Corp. because of slumping sales, Japanese media reported. Softbank's move comes at a time of sluggish earnings growth for the three-year-old venture, Gamebank Corp. • Nissan Motor Co. is reducing the amount of palladium it uses in catalytic converters because of uncertain supplies and rising prices. Palladium last month rose as high as \$256.50 an ounce, its highest in almost 18 years, as traders feared that Russia, the world's biggest supplier, would hold back shipments. The metal was quoted Tuesday at \$234 an ounce in New York.

• Malaysia Airline System Bhd. is to defer taking delivery of Boeing aircraft due this year and next because of a declining load factor and currency instability, a Malaysian newspaper report said. The carrier, which placed an order in 1996 with Boeing Co. for 25 aircraft valued at \$4 billion, took delivery last year of five and was scheduled to take delivery of eight this year, seven next year and the remaining five in 2000.

• A bid to end a strike in the Sri Lanka tea industry has failed, but further talks are possible.

• International Business Machines Corp. expects Asia's economic crisis to cut the company's growth rate in the region this year, its Southeast Asia general manager, George Samek, said. He declined to give details.

• Daiwa Bank Ltd. expects losses of 4.8 billion yen (\$38.4 million) on loans to two companies that went bankrupt this month.

AP, Bloomberg, AFP, Reuters

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GENERAL

NASDAQ

Tuesday's 4 P.M.
The 1,000 most traded National Market securities
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.

NYSE

Tuesday's 4 P.M. Close
(Continued)

V-W-X									
404	234	UWITech	1.24	1.4	1.21	10463	58	5414	87
159	154	UWITech	1.24	1.4	1.21	10463	58	1914	+2%
378	154	UWITech	.48	1.8	1.21	207	246	2594	26
224	154	UWITech	5	17	17	1222	20	1794	197%
42	274	UWITech	1.121	2.6	17	1222	20	4344	+4%
44	22	UWITech	1.72	7.9	17	1222	20	2149	+3%
221	184	UWITech	1.72	7.9	17	1222	20	1644	+2%
304	312	UWITech	1.72	7.9	17	1222	20	1644	+2%
454	254	UWITech	.80	2.5	15	2245	364	354	-1%
204	134	UWITech	.80	2.5	15	2245	364	1644	+14%
12	6	UWITech	2.03	5.8	14	145	35	344	-1%
12	254	UWITech	1.801	5.1	14	145	71	674	-5%
V-W-X									
404	324	VFC Co 9	.76	1.8	16	6422	439	424	-1%
378	194	VFC Co 9	.32	5	23	1671	104	2214	+1%
204	264	VFCM	1.18	2.9	17	548	364	3614	+1%
234	214	VFCM	1.82	13	22	548	364	324	+1%
104	774	VFCM	1.82	13	22	171	104	104	-1%
174	774	VFCM	1.54	59	1	430	159	154	154
174	124	VFCM	1.54	59	1	288	159	154	154
84	79	VFCM	1.54	59	1	408	89	89	-1%
114	94	VFCM	1.54	59	1	203	114	154	154
154	94	VFCM	1.54	59	1	408	114	154	154
144	114	VFCMOT	1.54	59	1	404	1674	1674	+1%
164	14	VFCMOT	1.54	59	1	232	115	1474	-1%
149	814	VFCMOT	1.54	59	1	245	124	1374	-1%
174	149	VFCMOT	1.54	59	1	242	17	1674	+1%
144	12	VFCMOT	1.024	20	1	533	146	1474	-1%
74	64	VFCMOT	1.024	20	1	528	71	1474	-1%
174	64	VFCMOT	1.024	20	1	518	244	2394	-1%
34	104	VFCMOT	1.024	20	1	528	544	544	-1%
67	454	VFCMOT	1.024	20	1	539	244	244	-1%
494	264	VFCMOT	1.024	20	1	3404	274	274	-1%
204	214	VFCMOT	1.024	20	1	1058	416	374	+1%
644	324	VestDGC	1.54	59	1	1367	567	221	+1%
224	149	VestDGC	1.54	59	1	7625	624	2214	+1%
448	224	VestDGC	1.54	59	1	574	567	184	+1%
254	124	VestDGC	1.54	59	1	2622	214	214	+1%
214	124	VestDGC	1.54	59	1	525	224	214	+1%
24	164	VestDGC	1.54	59	1	1289	119	111	+1%
144	164	VestDGC	1.54	59	1	1009	50	50	+1%
204	204	VestDGC	1.54	59	1	39	30	49	+1%
704	294	VestDGC	1.54	59	1	2659	404	404	+1%
494	294	VestDGC	1.54	59	1	257	567	221	+1%
1034	614	VestDGC	1.54	59	1	1014	514	1014	-1%
354	264	VestDGC	1.54	59	1	361	13	124	+1%
154	154	VestDGC	1.54	59	1	224	149	1454	+1%
244	244	VFCM	1.54	59	1	172	192	1454	+1%
204	114	VFCM	1.54	59	1	224	149	1454	+1%
304	154	VFCM	1.54	59	1	1595	24	2454	+1%
344	264	VFCM	1.54	59	1	164	234	374	+1%
354	154	VFCM	1.54	59	1	2063	50	794	+1%
224	154	VFCM	1.54	59	1	245	114	214	+1%
24	154	VFCM	1.54	59	1	64	114	214	+1%
144	164	VFCM	1.54	59	1	204	54	54	+1%
84	34	VFCM	1.54	59	1	12	136	84	84
434	214	VFCM	1.54	59	1	289871	84	74	8
274	214	VFCM	1.54	59	1	416	264	264	+1%
364	194	VFCM	1.54	59	1	708	54	54	+1%
204	204	VFCM	1.54	59	1	715	144	154	-1%
374	22	VFCM	1.54	59	1	380	204	204	+1%
316	22	VFCM	1.54	59	1	504	254	254	+1%
374	16	VFCM	1.54	59	1	504	254	254	+1%
204	214	VFCM	1.54	59	1	245	114	214	+1%
174	81	VestCar	1.54	59	1	1140	394	287	+1%
144	144	VestCo	1.54	59	1	1204	54	54	+1%
84	34	VestCo	1.54	59	1	12	136	84	84
434	214	VestCo	1.54	59	1	289871	84	74	8
274	214	VestCo	1.54	59	1	416	264	264	+1%
364	194	VestCo	1.54	59	1	708	54	54	+1%
204	204	VestCo	1.54	59	1	715	144	154	-1%
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174	81	VestCo	1.54	59	1	1140	394	287	+1%
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374	22	VestCo	1.54	59	1	380	204	204	+1%
316	22	VestCo	1.54	59	1	504	254	254	+1%
374	16	VestCo	1.54	59	1	504	254	254	+1%
204	214	VestCo	1.54	59	1	245	114	21	

Herald International Tribune SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1998

WORLD ROUNDUP

Ban for Ear-Biting

RUGBY UNION Kevin Yates, a prop forward for Bath and England, was banned for six months Tuesday for having bitten the ear of an opposing player, but he continued to insist that he was innocent.

A Rugby Football Union disciplinary panel announced the ban after 25 hours of deliberations spanning three days. The incident took place in a match between Bath and London Scottish that left Simon Fearn of Australia in need of 25 stitches on his ear.

Yates said he would appeal. "I'm very upset and disappointed that this decision has been reached despite there being no conclusive evidence against me," he said. "I am innocent of the charges." (Reuters)



Sabine Appelmans beating Larisa Neiland, 6-1 6-3, in the Gaz de France tournament.

Steven Upsets Rios

TENNIS Brett Steven upset Mariano Rios, the Australian Open finalist, 6-3, 6-3 on Tuesday in the first round of the \$1 million Dubai Open. Rios, ranked No. 5 in the world, made errors on big points as he handed Steven, ranked 49, a comfortable victory. Jeff Tarango eliminated the fifth seed, Sergi Bruguera, 6-3 6-3. (Reuters)

Australia Crushes Kiwis

CRICKET Australia beat New Zealand by 66 runs Tuesday in a one-day game in Wellington, taking a 2-0 lead in a four-match series. Mark Waugh made 35 as Australia reached 297 runs for six wickets. Australia then bowled out New Zealand for 231. (Reuters)

Big Raise for a Met

BASEBALL Edgar Alfonzo, who led the New York Mets in hitting in 1997, was among five players facing arbitration who agreed to one-year contracts Monday. Alfonzo got a 7.14 percent raise, to \$1.75 million.

The other players who settled were: Pat Meares, the Minnesota shortstop, (\$2.5 million); John Mahry, a St. Louis utility player, (\$1.4 million); Bryce Florie (\$600,000), a Detroit pitcher; and Felipe Lira, a Seattle pitcher, (\$415,000). Twenty-five players remain in arbitration. The first case is due to be argued Wednesday in Phoenix, Arizona. (AP)

Gastineau Is Charged

FOOTBALL Mark Gastineau, a former New York Jets defensive end, has been arrested and charged with assaulting his girlfriend.

A police spokesman said Gastineau's 33-year-old girlfriend was taken to a hospital Monday with bruises on her face following the attack on a Queens Borough street. Gastineau, 41, was charged with third-degree assault. (AP)

Silk Cut Loses Mast

SAILING The British yacht Silk Cut lost its mast in the Southern Ocean on Tuesday in the fifth leg of the Whitbread Round the World Race. The yacht was about halfway from Auckland to Cape Horn and was battered by high winds and big seas. (Reuters)

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

CARIBBEAN SERIES

IN PUERTO LA CRUZ, VENEZUELA

DOMINICAN REP.

VENEZUELA

MEXICO

X-DIMINCH CHAMPIONSHIP

MONTREAL RESULTS

PUERTO RICO & MEXICO 5 (11 Innings)

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC & VENEZUELA 0

CRICKET

NEW ZEALAND VS. AUSTRALIA

ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL

TUESDAY IN WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND

Australia: 297 for six wickets

New Zealand: 231

Australia won by 66 runs and leads four one-day internationals

NEW ZEALAND VS. ZIMBABWE

FOUR-DAY MATCH, THURSDAY

TUESDAY IN DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND

Zimbabwe: 67 and 195

New Zealand: 271 & declared

New Zealand A won by 11 runs.

GOLF

PRESIDENT'S CUP POINTS

Standings for Presidents Cup Match to be played Dec. 11-12 at Royal Melbourne Golf Club in Australia. U.S. player points are based on official money earnings from start of the 1997 season through World Series of Golf. International team at end of World Series of Golf, plus any player or eligible for the European Ryder Cup team. The top 10 earn positions, and each captain

England's Unstoppable Youth

Liverpool Scorer May Become Youngest to Play for Country

By Rob Hughes
International Herald Tribune

NAGANO, Japan — In precocity a burden or a bonus in soccer's World Cup year? Forty years ago, when a young fellow named Pele was called up by Brazil, age did not seem to matter. Twenty years ago, when Argentina had the teenage idol Diego Armando Maradona, he was reduced to tears because he was considered too tender by his coach, Cesar Menotti.

This Wednesday, Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, has hinted that he will blood a young phenomenon, Michael Owen, in a match against Chile. Owen would become the youngest player to win an England cap.

Owen, who plays for Liverpool, has until June 15, the day of England's opening World Cup fixture against Tunisia in Marseille, to beat the record. On that date, he will be 18 years 183 days old, the same age as Duncan Edwards when he made his debut in the 1950s.

The salutary warning to use talent while it exists is that Edwards triumphed young and died young, as a 21-year-old victim of the 1958 plane crash at the Munich airport that killed eight players for Manchester United.

Owen's life has no doubts. His speed of movement defies attempts by seasoned defenders to block him, kick him, diminish his audacious appetites in a man's game.

He plays on confidence and on an instinct for goal. Although Hoddle is famously cautious, he says Owen will probably play at some point against Chile at Wembley on Wednesday.

"He is only 18, but age isn't a hurdle — ability is," said Hoddle, who himself played for England more than 70 times. "That comes first followed by temperament. He has potential, he has the right temperament, now we have to see if he can do it against the best defenders in the world."

I have watched this boy progress through England's age-group teams. He has scored on every debut for England's under-15, under-18, under-19, under-20 and under-21 teams. It is rare indeed to see genius grow, but when

Liverpool thrust him into its senior team a year ago he did... well, you know what he did — the boy scored.

He was on the golf course last week, taking mowey off an older man, by bearing him to the shot. The senior player was Terry Owen, once a goal scorer, now merely the father who intends to keep Michael Owen's feet on the ground.

The youngster, rapidly becoming a millionaire, will be helping with family chores for a while yet. At Liverpool, where he is developing an all-round game, making as well as taking chances,

WORLD SOCCER

Owen is surpassing players who were his idols just months ago. He is in the England squad, Robbie Fowler is not. They both play for Liverpool. Fowler, once a teenage phenomenon himself, has reached 23 and his star seems to be waning. The quickening cycle of youth replacing experience is becoming scary.

But those who saw Owen grow, the schoolmasters in a small community by the River Dee, always knew the ability was there. They once had a boy called Ian Rush, who scored more often than any boy in the region and went on to become the most prolific goal scorer at Liverpool, although Rush struggled after he was sold to Juventus.

Rush, the Deeside schoolboy, hit a record 52 goals in one season; Owen, at the same age, struck 97.

Nothing has stemmed the flow. A few English brutes, not least the Arsenal captain Tony Adams, have tried to intimidate him, to bruise him, to discourage him. It has not worked so far.

The name of Owen already means something to soccer people across Europe. Borussia Dortmund, the champion club of Europe, offered Liverpool a fair exchange. They wanted to swap Karl-Heinz Riedle, their German international striker, for the boy. Liverpool kept Owen, and instead bought Riedle for £1.5 million (\$2.4 million). Now either Riedle or Fowler must sit on the bench and wait for Owen to hit a fallow patch.

It will come; it is the growing pain of the teenage sportsman. But meanwhile, let me try to convey what it feels like to try to stop Owen.

Against Blackburn Rovers last month, he faced two huge and experienced defenders, Stephane Henchoz plays of Switzerland and Colin Hendry of Scotland. They were almost pulled out of joint trying to suppress him.

He darted between them like a lizard between rocks. Once, he let the ball roll between his feet, then, with the audacity of a child, used the outside of his right foot to take the ball slightly to one side.

That trick caused Hendry to run off in the direction of the nearest town. Owen used the space to shoot, low, instantly and hard. The goalkeeper, a third national team player, Tim Flowers of England, made a brilliant instinctive save, but even then it took a fourth Blackburn player to hack the ball away from the goal. Owen, in a blink of an eye, had outwitted half the opposing team.

Does that make him ready for the World Cup? No one can say, but one can take the risk of ignoring him.

LAST MONTH, the French national team manager Aimé Jacquet had the opportunity to see if the young Monaco striker David Trezeguet could fill the French need for a genuine goal scorer. Jacquet failed to trust the youth. Trezeguet came on only near the end, leaving his potential unanswered.

Back to 1958, to Gothenburg, to Pele. He scored and Brazil won the World Cup. On the other hand, in 1978 Maradona did not play and Argentina won, and in 1994 Ronaldo, then just 17, was just substitute for the World Cup final. Brazil did not score but it won anyway.

RThe Times of London.

Ghana Defeats Tunisia, 2-0

Ghana, which failed to qualify for World Cup finals, beat Tunisia, which is going to France, 2-0, in a Group B African Nations' Cup clash on Monday, Reuters reported from Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

Nations' Cup favorite and World Cup qualifier Morocco, unbeaten in competition for two years, drew, 1-1, with Zambia in a Group D match in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso's second city.



Raul Diaz Arce (19) of El Salvador heading the ball in Concacaf action.

Jamaica in Concacaf Semifinals

The Associated Press

Jamaica in the 41st minute, Paul Hall hit a long ball forward, and Gayle outjumped goalkeeper Santos Rivera at the penalty spot and headed the ball into the net.

Fitzroy Simpson scored the second goal on a free kick in the 62d minute. After the Salvadoran defender Nelson Rojas tripped Deon Burton on a break-away, Simpson powered a 23-yard line drive into the upper-right corner of the net.

The Past Aside,
Ex-UCLA Coach
Gets His Footing
At Rhode Island

By Laura Gardner
Washington Post Service



REACHING OUT — Tulane forward Keith Harris, left, battles with North Carolina Charlotte's Kelvin Price, center, and Versile Shaw for the ball. With its 77-68 victory Monday night, North Carolina Charlotte took sole possession of the lead in Conference USA's American Division.

rick's departure from UCLA, the school hired him to replace Al Skinner, who had left for Boston College.

"It was a great thing that Jim Harrick and Rhode Island got together," Harrick said. Some faculty members and alumni reportedly disapproved of Harrick's hiring and the message it sent, but Harrick declined to discuss it. "I've had a marvelous reception here," he said.

There is no question his presence has galvanized interest in the program. The Rams play home games at two venues: Keaney Gym, an on-campus facility that accommodates 3,885, and Providence Civic Center, which seats 12,933.

And the Rams have already surpassed

their attendance total for all of last season. In 13 home dates last season, 60,479 watched the Rams play. In 11 home dates so far this season, 68,393 fans have passed through the turnstiles.

The number of season ticket packages sold for the Civic Center has increased from 2,300 to 4,200 since Harrick's hiring, according to assistant athletic director Walter Boyle.

Fans come to see a coach who guided UCLA to a national championship, three Pacific-10 Conference titles and eight NCAA tournament appearances in as many seasons, a coach who has won almost 70 percent of his games in a head coaching career that also includes nine seasons at Pepperdine. They hope he can guide Rhode Island, a perennial stepchild to in-state rival Providence of the Big East Conference, to the next level.

Harrick said: "You can always do better, but we're 17-3 and we're rolling along. We're not a great club, but a decent team."

Harrick's team returned four starters from last season's team, which went 20-10 and lost to Purdue in overtime in the first round of the NCAA tournament. They have senior guard Tyson Wheeler, who averages 14.7 points and leads the Atlantic 10 in assists at 6.3 per game. Senior Cuttino Mobley leads the team in scoring, averaging 16 points; Purdie transfer Luther Clay has stepped in at center with 9.6 points and 6.5 rebounds, and shot-blocking junior forward Antonio Reynolds-Dean leads the team in rebounding (7.6).

Tuesday's game was to be the third in four days for the Rams. "Real, real stupid scheduling," Harrick said.

"I'd just like to have a little time to practice. We haven't practiced in so long that you kind of lose the little things you do to help your team win. It's been a hectic, hectic schedule."

But by keeping busy, Harrick said, he has no time to dwell on the circumstances of his departure from UCLA and a corner of the world where he had lived and worked for more than 30 years.

"Once you're busy and coaching another team you never really think about it," he said. "It's just something that happened in the past."

TV Deals Give Salary Cap In NFL \$10 Million Boost

By Leonard Shapiro
Washington Post Service

telling the clubs.

"The teams have to have some kind of money going into free agency, and this is where it starts. I see it as a low-ball number because they still haven't finalized the TV payment yet."

The \$10 million increase is a direct result of the NFL's new eight-year, \$17.6 billion television contract with CBS, Fox and ABC/ESPN announced three weeks ago. That pact will pay teams an average of about \$75 million per year in TV revenue, compared to the average of about \$40 million a year under terms of the previous four-year TV contract.

The league and the networks still have not determined the payment schedule over the eight years, but the league told its teams the preliminary cap number for 1998 was based on a \$1.75 billion TV payment for this season, or \$58.3 million per team.

■ 49ers Release 2 Veterans

Slashing their payroll to gain some financial flexibility, the San Francisco 49ers released high-priced veterans Rod Woodson and Kevin Greene, ending a one-year association with the former Pro Bowlers, The Associated Press reported from Santa Clara, California.

Both Woodson and Greene played prominent roles on the 49ers' top-ranked defense last season, but by cutting them loose, San Francisco gained \$5.9 million in salary cap relief.

The general manager, Dwight Clark, said the release of the two was a matter of economics: "Even though we anticipate an increase to the salary cap, it won't be enough to allow us to keep Rod and Kevin at their current salaries. Clark has said he expects to have to trim \$16 million from the team's current \$61 million payroll. But he left the door open for the possible return of the players, though it would be at lower pay.

Woodson, a seven-time Pro Bowler in 10 seasons with Pittsburgh and a member of the NFL's 75th anniversary team, joined San Francisco prior to last season as a free agent. Greene also joined the 49ers as a free agent after being released from Carolina at the end of a bitter contract dispute. He finished with 10½ sacks as a situational pass-rusher after leading the league with 14½ sacks while with the Panthers in 1996.

Football Draft: A 'Drain' Game

The Associated Press

NFL teams will now intensify.

"I thought I did well," Wadsworth said. "I didn't run, but I did the broad jump, shuttle-drills, stretching drills and vertical jumps. I was probably among the top 10 at my position in everything. But I feel I could have done better."

</div

WINTER OLYMPICS

Unladylike And Wild, This Hockey Is BruisingBy Margaret Lillard
*The Associated Press***NAGANO, Japan** — U.S. forward Karyn Bye tries to stop a breakaway and ends up sliding neck-first into the goal post.

Canada's Danielle Goyette gets sandwiched between two Chinese players and finds herself flipped head over heels.

For those who think no bodychecking means no danger, the first female Olympic ice hockey players have the bruises — and the penalty minutes — to prove otherwise.

Bodychecking was eliminated from women's international ice hockey after the 1990 Women's World Championship, when it was clear that many international teams were made up of players too small to compete against the Americans and Canadians.

Also, with the sport still young in many places, some national teams needed to concentrate on basic skills such as stick-handling and skating.

But with the world's best players fighting for the sport's first Olympic gold medal, the competition has been anything but ladylike.

In Finland's 11-1 victory over Japan on Monday, the Japanese earned 42 penalty minutes, including two 10-minute misconduct penalties for checking from behind. Their coach, Tora Itabashi, even apologized to Finland's Raimo Korpi at the post-game press conference.

Goyette tangled with China's Li Xian, who somehow flipped Goyette on her face and earned a trip to the penalty box.

Some body contact is allowed, even expected, at women's games. But most players will try to take it further if the referee will allow it, U.S. coach Ben Smith said.

"They can push the envelope and go over the boundaries sometimes," he said. "That's why it's really important that the rules are followed. The incidental contact you see now doesn't always seem to be incidental."

"I wouldn't want to see the game go in that direction. I think it would deteriorate quickly."

Less controllable are the spills and collisions that are a part of hockey.

Bye had one of those inevitable moments when she was chasing down a Swedish player in the 7-1 U.S. victory Monday. She dropped to the ice to keep the puck away from goalie Sara DeCosta but kept sliding, knocking the net off its moorings with her shoulder and ending up lying face down along the boards.

But she insisted that she hadn't stayed in her pained pose because she was hurt but because she thought, wrongly, that the player had scored. Hard falls, she said, are "part of the game."

China's Gong Ming and U.S. defenseman Tara Mounsey also were among the walking wounded at the end of Monday's games. Gong crashed into the boards when she fell while chasing a loose puck and had to be carried, stunned, from the ice. Mounsey was hit on the forearm when she dropped to block a slapshot and left the ice for most of one period. After a day off Tuesday, both planned to play Wednesday.



France's Jean-Philippe Lemoine, left, wrestles the puck away from Germany's Benoit Doucet during a preliminary elimination match Tuesday.

Fedorov, in the Wings, Set to Swoop Into Rink*The Associated Press***NAGANO, Japan** — Once again, Sergei Fedorov is a man with a team.

Since helping the Detroit Red Wings win the Stanley Cup in June, Fedorov has been out of the National Hockey League because of a contract dispute.

It has meant lonely days skating at empty rinks, trying to maintain the skills that made him the NHL's most valuable player in 1993-94.

The Olympics represented a chance to play competitive hockey, something he may never again do for the Red Wings.

Fedorov became a late addition to Russia's Olympic hockey team, replacing the injured Alexei Kovalev of the New York Rangers.

Realizing the Olympics could be his entire season, Fedorov said he had been working out since December to keep in shape.

"I thought I'd be playing in the NHL, but an opportunity came my way to participate in Nagano," he said Tuesday. "That invitation caught me off guard. I've been practicing a lot and I'm in fair shape to participate."

Fedorov's first game since June 6 will be Friday, when the Russian team stocked with NHL talent opens final-round play against Belarus.

He carefully considered whether to play in the Olympics for Russia, having defected from the Soviet Union in

1989. Without an NHL contract, he has no protection in case of injury.

"It took me 12 hours to think it over," he said. "I was working with my agent to purchase insurance."

While some of the Russian NHL stars refused to play in the Olympics because of conflicts with their coaches, Fedorov was not among them.

The Russian federation made some changes, and we have a different coaching staff," he said.

"That's why maybe some players didn't recognize that change and didn't want to have that aggravation. Players who did come will be very satisfied with the management level."

Fedorov's future after the Olympics is uncertain. He is a restricted free agent who wants to be traded; Detroit has responded by offering a new deal.

"It's very simple," he said. "I'd like to regain my career with the NHL, but I'm not sure how it's going to be done."

Recently, the New York Islanders made the center an offer, but he turned it down.

He declined to discuss whether he would play for the Red Wings again. "I don't want to take any focus away from the Olympics," he said.

"I left personal NHL problems back in North America, and they'll be there when I return."

Seeking Le Miracle sur Glace**For Brooks, U.S. Coach in '80 Upset, It's a Changed Game**By Joe Lapointe
*New York Times Service***NAGANO, Japan** — In some ways, the scene was familiar to Herb Brooks. The modest-sized hockey rink in the modest-sized city was filled with flag-waving fans who were cheering for the underdog home team in the Olympic Winter Games. That is how it was in 1980, his last Olympic Games, when Brooks coached the United States to a gold medal in Lake Placid.

"That was then," Brooks said. "And this is now. Time goes on."

No longer involved with the American hockey program, no longer coaching in the National Hockey League, Brooks stood behind the bench for France, one of eight teams in the lower bracket of this tournament. Amid the din Monday night, Brooks' team beat Japan, 5-2. On Tuesday, in a much emptier arena, it lost, 2-0, to Germany and finished the group stage of the competition 1-2.

Brooks was unable to create even a minor miracle on ice by advancing past the three-game preliminary round. Belarus was the sole team to advance from this group of four. And, soon, Brooks will go back to his job as a scout for the Pittsburgh Penguins.

After Monday's game, Brooks joked that he spoke no French and some of his players understood no English.

"So I draw pictures," Brooks said.

"And we use an interpreter."

"It's a short-term thing for me," he said of his coaching job. "I'm wearing two hats here. I'm also doing a little scouting for Pittsburgh, to see if any players fell through the cracks."

It would seem to some that Brooks, too, has fallen through the cracks, working this week in a sideshow that serves as a warmup for the Big Six teams, stocked by NHL stars, who begin their phase of the tournament Friday. The U.S. team is one of the favorites for the gold. Many of its players were impressionable boys who were inspired to play hockey by the American success of 1980.

After that gold medal, Brooks coached the Rangers for four seasons, the Minnesota North Stars for one and the Devils for one. He has not worked as a coach since 1993.

"Do I miss it?" he said, repeating the question. "Once you've coached, you've always got a little in you."

He said he had a chance to coach an NHL team last year but decided against it after a talk with his wife. But he might not always say no. "You never say never," he said.

Brooks was 42 when his American team won the gold medal. In some ways, he has become what the film director Orson Welles was in the decades after "Citizen Kane." No matter what modest success he had afterward, every conversation seems to find its way back to that one big moment of the past. At the age of 60, is Brooks troubled by this?

"No, not at all," he said. "It's not an albatross at all. I have no regrets. I'm very happy with how things turned out. People are very nice. They say they were proud to be Americans at that point in history."

Brooks conceded that it was an "eclectic experience" to upset the Soviet Union on the way to the gold medal during one of the tense phases of the Cold War. Since then, great changes in world politics and Olympic eligibility have made another such epic moment unlikely.

"That was sort of a springboard for a lot of American kids," Brooks said. "I'm happy to see the Americans go from apprentices to journeymen to real masters

in the National Hockey League."

He said he would watch some of the American games in this tournament and cheer for the red, white and blue. But part of him misses the old days, when the United States sent a team filled with amateurs. Brooks was one of them, as an American player, in 1964 and 1968.

"Olympics are sort of special, and Olympians are sort of my heroes," Brooks said. "You know those films Bud Greenspan does? He catches the mean-

ingful things. It's not about perfection. It's about the pursuit of perfection."

"We get so caught up in money things. That's why I like the human side. Now, society wants the quick fix. I'm sort of a grassroots, from-the-bottom-up person instead of trickle down."

Brooks added: "Saying the Olympics are a great environment to market the NHL, we'll see a great tournament, no doubt about it. But I'd rather see it the old way."

For Belarus Defenseman, Using His Head Was All**NHL Suspension Let Him Join First Round**By Joe Lapointe
*New York Times Service***NAGANO, Japan** — Ruslan Salei, a defenseman for Belarus, didn't expect to arrive at the Winter Olympics in time for first-round games.

He asked the Anaheim Mighty Ducks, his National Hockey League team, for a leave of absence and permission to miss two league games. The Ducks refused.

But things worked out in a strange way for Salei, whose team advanced into the round of eight.

In a fight with Chicago's Sergei Krivokrasov on Feb. 1, Salei head-butted his opponent. This got him a two-game suspension. This got him to the Olympics earlier than planned. This helped Belarus go 2-0-1 in the first round.

And so the former Soviet republic will open the next round Friday against Canada. The other team to advance to the next bracket with the Big Six power was Kazakhstan, another former Soviet republic. Kazakhstan will play Russia on Friday.

Salei said his suspension "was like a good and bad thing."

"It worked for me, but I didn't do this on purpose," he said of the head butt. "It's not a real smart idea because I got a big fine and lost a lot of money."

People were asking me: 'Did you do this on purpose or something?' I was like: 'Yeah, right. I planned to get exactly two games at this time.' No, I was not doing this on purpose. It was a more physical game than usual."

Brooks was 42 when his American team won the gold medal. In some ways, he has become what the film director Orson Welles was in the decades after "Citizen Kane." No matter what modest success he had afterward, every conversation seems to find its way back to that one big moment of the past. At the age of 60, is Brooks troubled by this?

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"That was sort of a springboard for a lot of American kids," Brooks said. "I'm happy to see the Americans go from apprentices to journeymen to real masters

to sit on the floor. And they were looking at me like, wow! I didn't want to stand. I was tired."

Belarus, which tied Japan, 2-2, on Tuesday, must face the United States on Saturday and Sweden on Monday.

They wear red uniforms that look like those worn by the great old teams from the Soviet Union in the 1970s and 1980s.

Andy Murray, an assistant coach for Team Canada, scouted Belarus and said the team also plays the way the old Soviets used to.

"They're kind of throwback," Murray said. "It kind of brings you back a few years. Drop passes, possession in the neutral zone, no shooting the puck in, just hanging onto the puck."

Murray also warned that the format of the tournament was "set up for upsets" and that Belarus "could certainly make it difficult for some teams, no doubt about it."

Kazakhstan Moves to the Final

Kazakhstan advanced to the final round of the Olympic men's hockey tournament Tuesday with a 4-3 upset of Slovakia, which lost the Group A winner-take-all matchup despite the addition of Petr Bondra and fellow NHL standout Robert Svechl. The Associated Press reported.

"I got in last night late and the flight wasn't short, but that's no excuse," said Bondra, an All-Star winger with the Washington Capitals. "I'm very disappointed. I'll think about this for the rest of my life."

Bondra did not start but received ample playing time and wore the "A" assigned to the team's assistant captain.

He scored a power-play goal off a pass from Svechl with 7:44 left to make it 3-3.

But Alexander Koreshkov scored the game-winner on a breakaway with 1:21 to go, slipping the puck underneath the pads of goaltender Igor Murin.

Thierry Pui Kazakhstan, a newcomer on the Olympic hockey scene, into the next round with teams brimming with NHL stars.

"Our team today played its best game in history," said the Kazakhstan coach, Boris Alexandrov. "It is already a success that we are here now. The fact that our team ended among the top eight teams is already beyond our wildest expectations."

Bondra and Svechl, meanwhile, will play in a placement game Thursday before heading home.

Slovakia outshot Kazakhstan, 32-25, including 10-6 in the final period.

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Herald Tribune

INTERNATIONAL

WINTER OLYMPICS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1998

OLYMPIC ROUNDUP

Germans Lead Luge

LUGE Barbara Niedernhofer of Germany took the halfway lead in the women's luge Tuesday after two runs on the Spiral at Iizuna Kogen.

Niedernhofer, a 23-year-old soldier, trains with Georg Hackl, the men's gold medalist at Nagano, at the Koenigsee club in southern Germany. She used Silke Kraushaar, another German, after the first run but was faster over the second run. Niedernhofer's combined time of 1 minute, 42.319 put her 56 thousandths of a second ahead.

Angelika Neuner of Austria, the 1992 silver medalist, was third after the opening pair of runs, a third of a second behind.

Another German, Susi Erdmann, who won a bronze medal in 1992 and a silver in 1994, was fourth, more than half a second behind Niedernhofer.

Gerda Weissensteiner, the reigning Olympic champion, was 10th, 1.423 seconds behind.

The competition concludes with two runs Wednesday. (APF)

Bootees Are Not Bombs

LUGE Sandy Caligio, the U.S. luge team spokesman, said Tuesday that he had not intended to make any political implications when he compared a fender over racing shoes at the Nagano Olympics with the atomic bomb.

Caligio had said that giving controversial new boots to the powerful German luge team was "giving a superpower the atomic bomb."

Caligio said: "I did make the



Mario Reiter of Austria cutting past a gate Tuesday on his first run in the men's combined slalom in Hakuba.

Snowfall Keeps the Medals Away

Two Men's Runs Are Held, but Alpine Skiing Schedule Slips

By Harvey Araton
New York Times Service

NAGANO, Japan — Heavy snowfall continued to play havoc with Alpine skiing Tuesday, forcing postponement of the women's super-G race and preventing the awarding of the first Alpine medal of the 1998 Winter Games.

With the schedule backing up and more snow forecast, Olympic organizers decided to switch the women's super-G to Wednesday in Hakuba, Japan, where sunny conditions were expected. The men's downhill was moved to Thursday, along with the downhill part of the men's combined event.

Eager to at least get the Alpine program going, if only for the sake of fans who purchased tickets for the early part of the Games, Alpine officials did stage

Bachleda of Poland third and another member of the powerful Austrian team, Christian Mayer, was fourth.

Matt Grosjean of the United States had a strong first run, finishing third, but he missed a gate in the second run and went out of the race.

Several skiers besides Maier were unhappy with the decision to stage the event, including Ed Podivinsky of Canada, who said: "It was really very icy. It is impossible to get an edge in ice that hard. The event is favoring the slalom skiers heavily over the downhills. The downhill is easy here, and the slalom today was really difficult. It is really unfair that the slalom skiers have such an advantage in the Olympics."

The fear that weather would continue to dramatically alter conventional race conditions and thus throw all form out the window has become a major concern of the elite skiers in the Alpine events.

Even if the men's downhill, which was rescheduled after being snowed out of its traditional first Sunday date, is run Thursday, there are questions about the Hoppo 'one course' after so much snow has been dumped on it the past several days. Japanese Army troops have been working feverishly day and night, stomping the snow to harden the course.

Both runs of the combined slalom were completed by late morning in swirling snow and poor visibility, much to the dismay of Austria's Herman Maier, one of the favorites.

Additional units have swelled the ranks of the original 540 soldiers assigned to maintain the course. By morning Tuesday, almost 1,000 were on the mountain. Another 247 were on the super-G course.

■ Reiter Builds Big Lead

On Tuesday, Reiter, a slalom specialist, built a big lead in the 55-gate runs to maintain his medal chances in the downhill against the stronger speed

racers, The Associated Press reported.

The Austrian clocked 47.37 seconds on the first run and 44.48 on the second for an aggregate time of one minute, 31.85 seconds.

Kjus went through in an overall 1:33.66 (48.09 and 45.57) to lie second ahead of Poland's Andrzej Bachleda (1:34.49), Austria's Christian Mayer (1:35.05) and the Norwegian 1997 world champion and 1994 Olympic silver medalist Kjetil Andre Aamodt (1:35.26).

"The first run was the hardest I've ever done," Kjus said. "I skied like a chicken in the second. I need to ski very well in the downhill, and he needs to ski very well."

Maier, the overall World Cup leader but not a slalom racer, fared better on the second run and was eighth, 4.05 behind Reiter.

"It was chaos," Maier said after the first leg. "It was too difficult even for a special slalom. I've never seen anything like it."

Ed Podivinsky of Canada, 1994 Olympic downhill bronze medalist, straddled a gate in the second run and departed in annoyance.

"That's the hardest slalom course anyone's skied," he said. "It's way too difficult for a combined slalom. They make it unfair for the downhills. Both course settings were way too demanding."

"I think the skiers looked really stupid out there. The ice didn't help and it was pretty dumb of them, I think. I'm getting ready for the downhill — that's what I came for."

Twelve of the 38 starters, including Switzerland's 1997 world champion combined silver medalist, Bruno Kernen, failed to complete the first leg.

Seeking New Sports To Play in the Cold

By Harvey Araton
New York Times Service

NAGANO, Japan — If you can dream up something semi-athletically peculiar to do on ice, snow or on the side of a glacier, Juan Antonio Samaranch has an Olympic medal in his bag for you.

Samaranch, the president of the International Olympic Committee, says that one of his remaining missions be

and the gymnasts have demonstrated that their movement will be enhanced, as will the movement's television ratings and its bloated revenue stream.

Bikini bobsled, guaranteed, would rate right up there with the Super Bowl.

Curling and snowboarding are the newest medal sports at the Nagano Games. The inclusion of the former supports my point that oce activity is beyond consideration, while the latter emphasizes how the Olympics, the true global sports league, is determined to incorporate Generation X before the Extreme Games, invented by ESPN, the U.S. sports cable broadcaster, becomes the unofficial Olympics for Generation X.

Look, then, for future Olympic takeoffs from the following Winter X menu: ice climbing, snow mountain bike racing and snowmobile snocross.

There is no place, he insisted, for old-school sexism within the Olympic movement. But if you can find a way to keep the layers of clothing and body fat off the little pixies, the figure skaters

Sometimes the Clothes Do Not Make the Skater

By Jere Longman
New York Times Service

NAGANO, Japan — Ilya Kulik of Russia enters the Olympic men's figure skating competition on Thursday with the best chance to win and the worst chance in costume selection.

Forget that Kulik has pogo-stick legs that propel his jumps; that his takeoffs are light and effortless; that he lands with the softness of a leaf falling from a tree, and that he is a heartthrob. For all of his talent he hardly knows how to dress for success.

His short program costume has gossamer wings, which makes him look more like something in the wading pool at Sea World than a prospective Olympic champion.

Then there is his much-discussed costume for the long program Saturday: a black and yellow print number that looks like someone tried to turn a giraffe into an American school bus.

"Why reporters always ask about color?" said Tatiana Tarasova, who coaches the 20-year-old Kulik in Marlboro, Massachusetts, and thinks that his costume perfectly suits his airy, New York frame of mind as he skates to Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue."

"Yellow color, it's freedom," Tarasova said. "It's the color of the sun. A young man is walking around New York, and the sun hits him. Why not yellow color?"

There is no automatic point deduction for side-by-side costume failures, so Kulik at least is safe with the judges.

His Axel will matter much more than his attire. If he can summon the stamina that he has lacked in the past, Kulik possesses the most thorough arsenal of artistry and athleticism in the men's field.

His Russian teammate, Alexei Yagudin, possesses a similar completeness, but at 17 he lacks Kulik's polish and refinement.

"Kulik and Yagudin are very technical," said Joe Imman, an Olympic-level judge from the United States who is not scoring the men's competition.

"Kulik, however, has the ability to make a jump look seamless. He flows in and out equally well. And he has an inner understanding of what music is. He feels it. Yagudin has an arsenal of jumps, but he seems a little more raw to me."

Kulik, who began skating on a pond in Moscow when he was 4 years old, burst from anonymity in 1995 when he won the European championships on his first attempt. That is akin to a player coming out of high school to hit a three-point shot and win the National Basketball Association championship.

In the spring of 1996, he moved from Moscow to Massachusetts to work with Tarasova, who has produced four gold medals in dance and pairs competition.

She could become the first person to coach a singles and a dance team to gold medals in the same Olympics if Kulik wins the men's title and Pasha Gristuk and Yevgeni Platov repeat as dance champions.

ALPINE SKIING, Hakuba — Men: Downhill, 10 a.m.; Combined, 2 p.m.; Parallel slalom, 2 p.m.

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING, Hakuba — Men: 10km classical 9 a.m.; Women: 10km free, noon.

CURLING, Nagano — Men: 9 a.m.; British vs. Sweden, 9 a.m.; Norway vs. Germany, 9 a.m.; British vs. United States, 9 a.m.; Canada vs. Britain, 7 p.m.; Women: 10 a.m.; Japan vs. United States, 10 a.m.; Canada vs. Norway, 7 p.m.

ICE DANCE, Nagano — Women: 10 a.m.; Men: 10 a.m.

ICE HOCKEY, Nagano — Men: A4 vs. B4, 10 a.m.; A3 vs. B3, 4 p.m.; A2 vs. B2, 8 p.m.; Women: China vs. Sweden, 10 a.m.; United States vs. Japan, 4 p.m.; Finland vs. Canada, 9 p.m.

ICE SWIMMING, Nagano — Shige — Halfpipe preliminary, 9:30 a.m.; Halfpipe final, 1:30 p.m.

SKATEBOARDING, Nagano — Men: 1500 meters, 3 p.m.

OLYMPIC SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 11, 1998

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SKATEBOARDING, Nagano — Men: 1500 meters, 3 p.m.

All Times Local

"I dream about singles," Tarasova said.

Kulik, who left his parents and his younger sister, Svetlana, behind in Moscow, said he went to the United States because of better skating conditions. The rink at his Moscow rink was unreliable, he said. Sometimes the ice-smoothing machine was broken or out of gas. Or the rink was too cold or too hot. Sometimes, he said, there was no ice at all.

"If you want to compete with guys at the top level, you better have the same conditions they have," he said.

In Moscow, Kulik said, he lived an hour from the rink. In Marlboro, he is only five minutes away, and with four rinks available, there is a veritable buffet of skating at his disposal. But it is off-ice training that has made the biggest difference in his career.

Last summer, after Kulik finished fifth at the world championships, Tarasova brought in a conditioning coach. Kulik built his stamina through a cross-training regimen of weight-lifting, running and cycling.

Then he began this season by spiking himself in the right foot with his blade, severing a ligament in his toe and sustaining tendon damage.

He remained off the ice for several weeks in late summer. But his newfound endurance was evident in late December at an Olympic preview called the Champion Series Final in Munich.

After two-footing a quadruple jump, Kulik regained his composure and defeated all of his Olympic challengers, including Elvira Stojko of Canada, the 1994 silver medalist, and Todd Eldredge, the 1996 world champion.

"This is the first year his strength and physical condition are normal," Tarasova said. "He grew three centimeters last year, and his shoe grew two sizes. It was difficult for the muscles."

After he aggravated a pinched nerve in his back, Kulik skipped the recent European championships.

Some wonder whether he was ducking Yagudin, who won in Kulik's absence.

In any case, Kulik said that his back is better, and that while he is not 100 percent, "I have dealt with it."

"Three weeks ago, I had a lot of bad thoughts," he said. "I was disappointed missing Europeans, but my main competition is the Olympics."

He will trot out a quad and two triple-triple combination jumps in Saturday's long program. To groans from the fashion police, he will also trot out his black and yellow costume.

"I guess it will be the talk of the season, like Tara Lipinski's lutz," Kulik said.

SKATERS: Russian Pair Grabs the Gold

Continued from Page 1

received a deep cut to the head in a skating accident with her former partner and was left hospitalized and temporarily unable to speak.

Both Russian pairs are coached by Tamara Moskina, who has now produced three Olympic champions at the Yubileiny ice rink in St. Petersburg.

The bronze medal went to Mandy Woetzel and Ingo Steuer of Germany. They seemed satisfied, considering that Steuer had suffered a partly torn ligament in his shoulder last month when he was hit by a car while standing in the street in his hometown of Chemnitz.

Look, then, for future Olympic takeoffs from the following Winter X menu: ice climbing, snow mountain bike racing and snowmobile snocross.

It is interesting to note that Samaranch did not totally dismiss the question of dog sled races, which has everyone in Greenland pumped and Alaska talking secession.

"Any new sport wishing to be included in the Olympic program must comprise the women's events."

There is no place, he insisted, for old-school sexism within the Olympic movement. But if you can find a way to keep the layers of clothing and body fat off the little pixies, the figure skaters

Germany. The bronze medal was a redemptive performance for the current world champions, who had to withdraw during the long program at the 1994 Winter Games when Woetzel fell and landed hard on her chin.

The American champions, Jason Duginen and Kyoko Ima, finished fourth overall; just as they had done in the short program. They seemed jittery early on, as he put his hand down on a triple toe loop and their side-by-side spins were out of sync. They recovered but never seriously challenged for a medal.

The other American couple, Jenni Meno and Todd Sand, struggled mightily and finished a disappointing ninth.

Curling Favorites March On

Reuters

KARUIZAWA — Canada and Switzerland, the favorites in the Winter Olympics men's curling tournament, both won two games Tuesday to move to the top of the standings.

Sweden remained the only undefeated team after beating Denmark, 5-4, in 11 ends in the women's event.

</div

WINTER OLYMPICS

Japan Forgets Itself as Shimizu Speeds to VictoryBy Nicholas D. Kristof
New York Times Service

NAGANO — Buoying the spirits of his entire nation, Hiroyasu Shimizu won the 500-meter speed-skating race on Tuesday to collect Japan's first gold medal of the Nagano Olympics and prove himself the world's fastest man on ice.

An instant national hero, Shimizu thrilled a Japan that has been deeply troubled by political scandals and economic malaise. Newspapers turned out "extras," the prime minister called, the crown prince and the crown princess cheered, and fans sobbed ecstatically in the grandstands as they watched Shimizu skate a victory lap holding Japanese flags that spectators had handed to him.

Shimizu, 23, is dubbed "the Little Giant" in Japan because he stands just 1.61 meters (5 feet, 3 inches) tall and 70 kilograms (154 pounds).

He hailed his medal as a victory of spirit, as an affirmation that what counts is not the physique one is given but the determination one shows.

"I'm the smallest skater in the

world," he said, "and I wanted to show everyone that even though I'm the smallest I can still win."

"Most Japanese are smaller than foreigners, and I wanted to show that even if you are smaller than others, you can still win so long as you believe in yourself," he added.

Shimizu set an Olympic record in his race Tuesday, 35.59 seconds, and easily beat Jeremy Wotherspoon, a Canadian who won the silver, and Kevin Overland, also of Canada, who won the bronze. Under new rules adopted for this Olympics, the medals went to those with the lowest combined time in two races, one Tuesday and one Monday.

Unlike the large, powerful racers he competed against, Shimizu burst across the ice ben low, a whirling blur of pumping arms and legs, and the gap between his combined time and that of Wotherspoon was greater than the gap between any two other finalists in the top 30.

Shimizu's race was the last of the day, and when his time was posted on the electronic scoreboard the Japanese crowds went wild in the grandstands.

"I'm so happy — that's why I'm crying," sobbed Ippongi Miko, a 34-

year-old housewife who had brought her three children to see Shimizu win.

"Everything has been so dark in Japan, so many problems, and now suddenly it is light again. Now we feel that we can do anything."

Naoko Minemura, a 22-year-old kindergarten teacher, waved a Japanese

SPEED SKATING

flag energetically as Shimizu rose on the podium to get his gold medal. "We can forget about all our country's problems now," she said, smiling through her tears. "Look! We've already forgotten."

Shimizu, who holds the world record in the 500 meters but had a poor season until now, said he had been charged up by the feverish cheering from fans.

"When my name was called and there was huge applause, I felt that all these people were expecting Hiroyasu Shimizu would win the gold medal, and it was real pressure on me," he said. "But that pressure converted into energy that empowered me in the race."

Shimizu, who comes from the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido, began skating at the age of 4, and the 500-

meter Japanese high school record he set still stands. As a child he was pushed into skating by his father, and he said Tuesday that he sometimes resented it then — and that the firmly decided on his own to pursue skating only following the death of his father seven years ago after a long struggle with cancer.

One of the first things he said after the race was, "I would like to thank my father in heaven."

When Overland, the bronze medalist, was asked how Shimizu managed to win despite his small size, he did not pause. "It's pretty simple," he said. "Shimizu has the best technique of any of the sprinters. He gets everything out of each push, and that explains why he wins gold medals and sets world records."

Shimizu smiled but offered a slightly different explanation for his success. "Compared to these guys on each side of me," he said mischievously, looking at the silver and bronze medalists towering over him. "I face less wind resistance." Later, he credited his victory to determination, saying, "My desire to win was probably stronger than anybody else's."

"And why did he want to win so much? "I think of my mother, who is alone

now," he said, "and I just want to make her happy."

Several of the skaters had trouble staying in their lanes around the corners, and there was one bad crash. Grunde Njos of Norway was on the inside lane but gritted outside, slipped, touched his hand to the ice and then completely lost his footing and went sliding into the wall.

Erben Wennemars, of the Netherlands, was on the outside and tried desperately to skate around and over Njos. He almost made it, but was tripped over Njos' leg and went crashing into the wall as well. He screamed and held his left arm, and an ambulance crew took him to a hospital. He suffered a dislocated left shoulder.

Neither Wennemars nor Njos had been regarded as a likely medal winner.

The national pride in Shimizu's triumph was evident everywhere. Normally, security officials at the Olympics have been sticklers for the rules, and on Tuesday night a Japanese policeman initially refused to allow a reporter through a passage at the end of the press section of the grandstands. But when the reporter explained that he wanted to



Hiroyasu Shimizu heading to victory and to his countrymen's cheers.

interview cheering fans, moments after Shimizu's victory, the policeman grinned, looked around conspiratorially, and led the way through a series of passageways before emerging in the middle of the crowd of fans.

"Today was a great day," the policeman said, and then he vanished.

Shimizu wept as he embraced his friends and coaches after his victory.

Breaking the Ice With North Koreans

Speed-Skating Unit Proves Surprisingly Outgoing in Nagano

By Nicholas D. Kristof
New York Times Service

NAGANO — A group of North Korean athletes and coaches sat over lunch here in the Olympic Village and looked somberly at one another as they were told that Americans usually think of North Koreans as shy, humorless and grimly serious.

Then they roared with laughter, doubling over their plates, the gales of hilarity resounding through the cafeteria.

"Human beings are all the same," Yun Chol, 23, who is studying English in his spare time, said when he and the others had recovered their breath. "Politicians may be different, but people are all the same."

North Korea remains a hard-line Communist country that is probably the most isolated place on earth, and it was unclear until the last minute whether North Korea would even send a delegation to the Olympics. But the 10 speed skaters who did show up — along with three coaches and seven mysterious "administrative officials" — have been unusually friendly, funny and open to making friends.

Bidden six to a room in the Olympic Village, beneath a sign declaring "Our Country's Pride Depends on You," the athletes and coaches have been sampling McDonald's french fries and pursuing a modern twist to the "Ping Pong diplomacy" of the kind that warmed relations between China and the United States in 1971. If they portray a good image of their country on and off the ice — they could win medals in short-track skating events, especially the women's relay — then North Korea may try to use its athletes more to build bridges with the outside world.

"If these athletes do a bit better than their personal records, then North Korea is planning to send them out as often as possible," said Kim Jong Hi, a coach. "It depends on them — not on their medals, but on how well they skate."

North Korea has given some signs that it hopes to open up a little bit to the outside world, particularly since Kim Jong Il, the country's longtime "Dear Leader," formally took power in the

autumn. The North Korean athletic delegation seems to reflect that cautious interest in opening up.

When the North Koreans first arrived at the Olympic Village, they chose to eat together in a far corner of the huge cafeteria, away from anybody else. Then they gradually began taking their meals closer to the rest of the athletes, and they began exchanging the odd hello with South Koreans.

By this week, when a reporter sneaked past security into the Olympic Village and met the North Koreans, they were holding court in the middle of the cafeteria and exchanging cheery comments with South Korean athletes and coaches. North Koreans typically flee any American official as if they were competing in an Olympic race, but this time they were friendly and even charming.

The North Koreans are not wearing the badges of the Dear Leader's father, Kim Il Sung, who was known in the country as the "Great Leader." Such badges have been worn by virtually all North Koreans for decades, but the athletes said that it would be inappropriate to wear the badges in their informal athletic clothing.

The Japanese government has been appreciative that North Korean athletes might defect during the Olympics and trigger a political crisis, and the seven administrative personnel may include minders to keep an eye on the athletes. But they do not give the impression that they are under enormous scrutiny.

In the Olympic Village, they travel around in small groups of twos and threes, and when a visitor knocked on the door of their apartment, it turned out to be unlocked — burglary apparently is not a major problem in North Korea — with just a single athlete there by herself. She seemed surprised by the intrusion but, in the kind of gesture inconceivable in the past, amiably showed the visitor around.

And the top wish?

"Our wish No. 1," Mr. Kim said with a grin, "is for the reunification of Korea."

JUNG Sook Koh, a Korean-American from New York City who has worked for many years to use sports to build ties between North Korea and the outside world, is in Nagano. She said that the North Koreans were much more open than in the past.

"They surprised me by how friendly and open they are here," Ms. Koh said. "They're more flexible now than they were in Barcelona or Atlanta or ever before. Their atmosphere is exceptionally friendly."

She said the flexibility of the North Koreans suggested that this was a good time for the United States and North Korea to begin sporting exchanges.

Despite widespread signs of severe binger in North Korea, the athletes said they were getting plenty of food, and they all appeared well-fed and healthy.

The short-track skating events are toward the end of the Olympics, so the athletes have been spending their time practicing and praying for medals — well, not quite praying, given their country's Communism policy, but earnestly hoping.

"If somebody gets a medal," Mr. Kim said, "there'll be a huge reception at the airport when we go home, and then there'll be people lining the roads into the city, cheering for us. Our wish No. 2 is for a gold medal, wish No. 3 is for a silver, and wish No. 4 is for a bronze."

And the top wish?

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Gold for Ruby in Tricky Olympic Debut

Compiled by Our Staff Writers

YAMANOUCHI, Japan — Karine Ruby of France, the overwhelming favorite, took the women's giant slalom snowboarding gold Tuesday. She hollered an enormous first leg lead of almost two seconds to cruise to a historic victory.

Ruby, who won seven consecutive World Cup events earlier this season, finished the second leg with a combined time of 2 minutes, 17.34 seconds to claim the first ever women's Olympic snowboarding gold medal.

Heidi Renfro, fifth after the first leg, finished a distant second to take silver, some 1.83 behind the leader. Brigitte Koeck of Austria put together a spectacular second leg that was 1.6 faster than Ruby but could move no closer than third after a seventh-place finish in the opening run.

"I was so nervous at the top before the second leg, it was unbelievable. Now I feel so at peace, the feeling is amazing," Ruby said as she celebrated her place in Olympic history.

Ruby led with two riders to go into

had to watch as Ruby overtook her and France's Isabelle Blanc screamed down the course on target to challenge Ruby's lead. But at the last gate Blanc caught an edge and skidded past the wrong side of the marker, sliding past the finish, racers said.

"I'm in a little bit of shock right now," said Rosey Fletcher of the United States. "The snow was a lot different. For the best-caliber race, like this one, the snow conditions should be the top. But right now, it's a race for survival. A lot of people who finished are two, three, four seconds out. That's not the way a race should be."

Lisa Kosglow of the United States said: "The women are not this bad. It's a terrible showcase. I don't think anybody looks good right now."

Ruby looked better than good. But the Americans were not the only ones who flopped in their Olympic debuts. Of the 31 women entered, seven did not complete the first run, and other highly regarded riders, such as Margherita Parini of Italy and Steffi Von Siebenthal of Switzerland, struggled before they finally skidded to a halt. (Reuters, NYT)

The conditions were not optimum for snowboarding. After nearly 24 hours of continuous snowfalls — which forced

organizers to delay the race from Monday to Tuesday and which continued through both Tuesday's runs — the course had changed from a hard, icy pitch in training to a soft, slower track,

SNOWBOARDING

The scoreboard immediately showed her with the fastest time, confusing Renfro, who thought silver had just turned to bronze.

As Ruby celebrated her gold, the U.S. team, widely expected to crowd the medals podium, could only sit and watch as its three top riders crashed out. Ruby but could move no closer than third after a seventh-place finish in the opening run.

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OBSERVER

Big Wind From Cuba

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — The country was half-mad with tales of sex. "At the highest level," as they used to say before the presidency became a display window for second childhood.

If we didn't escape soon I might start confessing about the time, back in 19 and 54, when I smuggled a copy of "Lady Chatterley's Lover" past the U.S. Customs Smut Police. Those were the days.

Now we have seen "Deep Throat." We have mastered the Playboy philosophy. We have yawned at the centerfolds of Hustler magazine. We have watched a solemn committee of the U.S. Senate cross-examine witnesses about a film character called Long Dong Silver.

"Enough of this endless babble about the reproductive organs," I cried. "Let's take a kayak to Goshen or Nyack and get away from it all."

"Better yet," said my wife. "Let's hop in the car and nip down to Key West."

So in we hopped and downward we nipped. The sense of anticipation was even keener than the sense of relief at having climbed out of a sewer, because, with Cuba lying so close to Key West, we would be ridiculously close to Fidel Castro.

At a time when the rest of the Evil Empire has collapsed — except China — Castro continues to menace the free world from his Red citadel situated within easy striking distance of Key West's sponge shops.

I am telling her we will experience a similar delightful frisson of fear at Key West, so close to Castro.

She asked why the car felt as if it was trying to fly. I was

patient about explaining the physical sensation created by an occasional wind gust.

She said let's look for a motel.

I said nonsense. We were already in the Keys. Key West was a mere hour or two away. To be sure, the windshield wipers were now being cruelly manhandled by torrential sloshing across the windshield.

"Washington's Cuban policy —," I said.

We had just entered a long piece of overseas causeway known as "the seven-mile bridge," when my wife's cellular phone went off.

"Fidel Castro —," I was saying.

The call was from a friend in that part of Florida. Where were we? Still driving? Did we yearn for the grave. There were tornadoes everywhere. Everyone was warned to get off the road. And above all, the friend added, "Don't get caught on the seven-mile bridge."

Where were we now? I asked my wife. I gave it to her straight from the shoulder: "On the seven-mile bridge."

Obviously, we made it over the seven-mile bridge. With land in sight, my wife's insistence became implacable. A motel was visible at Big Pine Key. There was a room. The room had an armchair that collapsed when sat in. The television was out. There was no radio.

Twenty minutes later there was a total power failure. It stayed total for hours.

Next morning we learned that it had been a fairly good disaster. I am already being fitted with a new panic button.

She started her career working

New York Times Service

By Mike Zwerin
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — According to Barbara Kopple, whose feature-length documentary "Wild Man Blues" opens in Paris this week, its star, Woody Allen, defines himself first and foremost not as a writer, director or actor but as a musician. She and her crew followed him as he and his band toured 18 European cities playing New Orleans jazz in 1996.

Before leaving New York, she met with Allen in his apartment and in the course of conversation she asked him: "Are you excited about this tour?"

She watched him as he turned uneasy: "No, I don't want to go. They put this together two years ago. I never thought the time would really come." Wondering if he was acting, she wished for a camera.

Afterward, when she knew him better, Kopple saw that it had more to do with the discomfort of being in a situation that he could not control. He gets easily overwhelmed. And fears leaving New York. He controls his life in New York. He was not in the habit of taking a band on the road for three weeks; going to strange cities like Milan, Turin, Bologna, Madrid, Rome, Paris and London.

She said she would need total trust. He said it was no problem. And it wasn't. He never once asked her to turn off the camera. About the closest she came to altering the situation she was recording was when they planned a gondola ride in Venice in advance. They "never never" discussed what was to be shot.

Kopple's film "Harlan County USA," about a miner's strike in Kentucky, won an Oscar in the feature documentary category. Her "Richard III," starring Rip Torn, was an adaptation of Shakespeare to address modern social issues. Among others, she has won awards at Cannes and the Sundance Film Festival.

She started her career working



Woody Allen demonstrating his love for Dixieland jazz on his European tour in 1996.

with the Maysles brothers on "Gimme Shelter," a documentary of the Rolling Stones. Later, as a director, she followed the Maysles' cinema verité style. The crew became part of the scenery: part of the cast, as it were. The "plot" turns out to be whatever happens. The subjects eventually forget that the crew is filming. The camera itself gets to be, as Albert Maysles once described it, "some sort of weird lump on the cameraman's head."

In addition to his hand, Allen would be traveling with his sister Letty Aronson and his companion, Soon-Yi Previn. Allen's relationship with Soon-Yi had been getting a lot of publicity, much of it negative. She was an adopted daughter of Allen's ex-companion, Mia Farrow. Farrow had taken him to court over it. It was a scandal. Some think that Allen may have wanted the

film, at least in part, to "legitimize" the relationship, in any case, to explain it. Kopple thinks not: "I think that the primary reason he agreed to it was to demonstrate his love for New Orleans jazz. And to allow the world to see him as a musician. Which is a different Woody Allen. New Orleans jazz is in the process of dying and he wants to do what he can to bring it back. He wants people to hear it and understand what he hears in it."

Although he told Kopple he was afraid that his audience might get bored, she knew better: "He would never have attempted to do this tour if he wasn't absolutely sure he could pull it off. He's going to do things well or he won't do them at all. That's the way he is; whether it's playing tennis or playing jazz on the clarinet. And believe me, he takes being a musician very seriously."

associated with youth, fun and freedom. Watching Allen fight for the fun of it is dramatic.

Kopple does not think the tour had much to do with making money. (Allen donated his pay in Venice to the Fenice opera house, which had burned down.) There is no narration, no voice-over to gum up the works. The story is what the camera sees and the tape recorder hears. There are hints, but motivation remains basically ambiguous, and you can only guess.

The luxurious hotels they check into are almost literally out of sight. Have you ever seen a suite with its own maître d' and private swimming pool? As the elegant and urbane maître d' serves the dinner that has been prepared in the suite's private kitchen, Allen says in an ironic aside to Soon-Yi that "this guy is really a reform serial killer."

No cheap one-liners for the bleachers, no hammering it up for the camera. This is somebody who is seriously involved, with being funny. He is not acting — unless, of course, he acts so well that he gives that impression.

At one point he says that film directors often make the sort of movies they liked when they were growing up. He grew up watching European films and that's why he makes them: "Maybe the Europeans like me because they like films that drone on. I'm very good at making films that drone on."

Kopple says that she loves "doing" documentaries like hers because sooner or later all the planning goes out the window. You never know what's going to happen." And the luncheon reunion with his parents after his return to New York that concludes the film turns out to be right out of — you guessed it — a Woody Allen movie. As his mother and father put on their coats and prepare to leave his apartment, Allen does a mini Groucho Marx eyebrow number for the camera, shrugs and says: "A lunch from hell."

("Wild Man Blues" opens in New York on April 17.)

'Titanic' Wins 14 Oscar Nominations; 'Amistad' Sinks

By John Horn
The Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, California — "Titanic," the epic account of a fateful love affair on the doomed ocean liner, captured a record-tying 14 Academy Award nominations, including best picture, actress and director.

"L.A. Confidential" and "Good Will Hunting" each received nine nominations, including best picture. The other best picture nominees were "As Good As It Gets" and "The Full Monty."

Kate Winslet was nominated for best actress for "Titanic," as were Helena Bonham Carter for "The Wings of the Dove," Julie Christie for "Afterglow," Judi Dench for "Mrs. Brown" and Helen Hunt for "As Good As It Gets."

Robert Duvall's self-financed role in "The Apostle" earned him a best lead actor nomination. He will face Matt Damon from "Good Will Hunting," Peter Fonda from "Ulee's Gold," Dustin Hoffman from "Wag the Dog" and Jack Nicholson from "As Good As It Gets."

Among those missing from the nominations was Steven Spielberg, whose "Amistad" was not selected for best picture, best director or best actor.

The only other film to get 14 Oscar nominations was "All About Eve," released in 1950. The record for most victories for a single film is held by "Ben-Hur" in 1959, which won 11.

The 87-year-old Gloria Stuart in "Titanic" was nominated for best supporting actress. Also nominated in the category were Joan Cusack in "In & Out," Minnie Driver in "Good Will Hunting," Julianne Moore in "Boogie Nights" and Kim Basinger in "L.A. Confidential."

Burt Reynolds was nominated for best supporting actor for "Boogie Nights." The other nominees in the category were Robert Forster from "Jackie Brown," Anthony Hopkins from "Amistad," Greg Kinnear from "As Good As It Gets" and Robin Williams from "Good Will Hunting."

James Cameron, the driving force behind the \$200 million "Titanic," re-

ceived two nominations — as producer of the film for best picture, and as the film's director.

Cameron will face for the directing Oscar Peter Cattaneo for "The Full Monty," Gus Van Sant for "Good Will Hunting," Curtis Hanson for "L.A. Confidential" and Atom Egoyan for "The Sweet Hereafter."

The other nominations for "Titanic" were for art direction, cinematography, costume design, editing, makeup, score, song ("My Heart Will Go On"), sound, sound effects editing and visual effects. The teen heartthrob Leonardo DiCaprio was passed over for best actor.

Two high grossers collected no top nominations. "Men in Black" and "The Lost World: Jurassic Park" had four minor selections between them.

Foreign-language films nominated were "Beyond Silence" (Germany), "Character" (the Netherlands), "Four Days in September" (Brazil), "Secrets of the Heart" (Spain) and "The Thief" (Russia).

The Oscars will be given March 23.



Cameron, a success story.

THE author who accused Steven Spielberg

and his production company, DreamWorks, of stealing from her work to make the movie "Amistad" has dropped her plagiarism suit and praised the movie as "a splendid piece of work." Barbara Chase-Riboud's \$10 million copyright infringement lawsuit said DreamWorks had taken material from her "Echo of Lions" for "Amistad," which is about a revolt in 1839 of Africans on a slave ship. "After my lawyers had a chance to review DreamWorks' files and other documents and evidence," Chase-Riboud said in a statement, "my lawyers and I concluded that neither Steven Spielberg nor DreamWorks did anything improper, and I instructed my lawyers to conclude this matter in a timely and amicable fashion." In December, The New York Times reported that Chase-Riboud had written a 1986 novel, "Validé: A Novel of the Harem," containing passages that appeared in a scholarly book published 50 years earlier. Chase-Riboud admitted that she had used the material, but asserted she had done nothing wrong.

The Japanese public got their first look Tuesday at the fiancée of the American-born star Akebono. Christine Reiko Kalina appeared with her gigantic betrothed at a Tokyo news conference in formal kimono and obi sash to formally announce their wedding in September. Their first child is expected in late May or early June, the couple said. Kalina was born in Japan to an American serviceman and his Japanese wife.

The widow of Oskar Schindler, the German industrialist who rescued more than 1,000 Jews from the Holocaust, has been granted a pension by Argentina to save her from poverty. A government spokesman said Tuesday that Emilie Schindler would receive \$1,000 a month.

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Cloud
Scandal
Spiraling
sky Mother
Grand Jury
Jury of Testimony

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